NARWA 2005

Park University

2005

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Parkville American Legion offers place to

By: Stacy Wiedmaier and Elizabeth Weese

The students learned right away being late for Bingo Night at the Parkville Legion Hall is not as cool as being late for Theory and History of the Mass Media.

It was Friday night and the three adventuresome Park University students waltzed into the bingo hall fashionably late. Players stared. The students could hear whispers. They made their way to the registration table. The whispers become louder; more like grumbles.

"Who are they?

What are they doing here?

WHY are they late?"

The three students sat down at a table and fumbled their way through their first evening of bingo. None of them won. The regular patrons seemed slightly vindicated, though their tardiness had prevented the pot from growing to the next level.

When the competition ended, the bingo caller offered one last dig in his evening-ending salute:

"Thank you for attending the Leon A. Robbins American Legion Post 318 Friday night bingo! We hope to see you all back here again next week. And, maybe, if everyone is on time, we can be pushed into the next level of money.

"Drive safely."

Those three students broke the ice at the Parkville American Legion. From that night on, bingo was a weekly ritual for Park students, although none can remember a time when any of them won.

"It was just a fun place to be," one of the students recalled. "Cheap food and drinks, fun game, nice people, quite a few of whom worked at the University; basically a good starting off point for a Friday night on the town."

They set their palm pilots to make certain they would be on time and soon felt welcome in the downtown hall listening to the chant: "I-23...I-2-3..." of the caller over the microphone as patrons hurriedly dobbed their bingo sheets. As many as 50 players are typically on hand for the event, which has been in existence longer than the three Park students who broke the ice. The competition is fierce.

Most bingo players are regulars. They sit in the same seats every week. They use the same dobbers for each game; order the same item off of the menu.

"B-4...B- the number 4...," the caller says again, inciting the same routine. Smoke fills the air. Players talk about their week. Work, family, grandkids. This place has become their Friday night oasis. A place to escape, and maybe win some money.

Well, maybe not.

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It is Wednesday night at 11 p.m., two years after the ice was first broken at the Legion Hall. Inside the narrow rectangular building a few strides from the railroad tracks in downtown Parkville, students Park students assemble here mid-week to take a break from their studies and work. This is a night club, Parkville style.

The American Legion in downtown Parkville offers karaoke every Wednesday night from 8 p.m. to midnight. Karaoke was invented in Japan in the late 1970s and means 'empty orchestra.' The downtown Legion hall has been the unlikely home of Park student karaoke since April 6, 2005.

Every Wednesday night, a gaggle of on-campus students walk over from the halls, while commuter students meet them on Main Street. The Legion pays $200 for the Carrie Oke Production Company to bring 13,000 different songs for amateur singers to croon. These songs range from the latest Top 40 hits to 1940s swing music. Before midnight, a collection of money is taken up by regular Park attendee Jen Kurzava. If $50 is raised, then Tony the Disc Jockey stays for one more hour until 1 a.m.

Teri Deister, Legion's manager for three years, said she is happy to provide a place for Park people to go.

"It was my idea to have a karaoke night," she said. "But I chose Wednesdays because it was a day that we could offer continually every week. We rent out the hall on weekends for either weddings or private parties. So Wednesdays turned out to be a good decision. It took off right away, even though our attendance understandably goes down over school breaks, such as summer and other holidays. But it's doing better than I anticipated."

Large black binders are set on the tables for students to look through and choose what song they will sing. They then fill out the slip of paper containing their name, the song title, and its category number. These slips are turned over to the Disc Jockey who creates the order of performance. On a busy night, students may have to wait an hour for a turn to sing. It is popular to sing a song with a group of friends, sometimes up to six at a time. Microphones are shared while some even portray the back-up

MEL GARDNER, AMBER PACHECO AND KELLY RIPLEY DANCE AND SING TO THE MUSIC AT A RECENT WEDNESDAY NIGHT KARAOKE NIGHT AT THE AMERICAN LEGION IN PARKVILLE.
NARVA PHOTO/KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

hang out, plethora of Park history to students

dancers.

One face that everyone finds familiar is Park senior Cassie Peters. She likes to sing several country songs every Wednesday, and is known as 'Sassy Cassie.'

"I haven't missed a Wednesday night since May," she said. "I live on campus, so not only is it close, it's something to do. I come just to sing."

When a lull is present, Disc Jockey Trujillo stands on the small corner stage to tell jokes or pick his own song to sing. Trujillo said Carrie Oke Company plays more than 20 different venues a week. He said the company has been in existence eight years.

"I like the kids who come out here every week," Trujillo said. "I've gotten to know some of the regulars and I will sometimes suggest songs for them to sing, too. I like to play the new and modern music the most, and keep it upbeat. These are rambunctious kids, but they're a lot of fun to work with."

When the night wears on, an even larger crowd of students will show up around 10 p.m. As this group becomes livelier, Trujillo will start to play short dance breaks of one or two fast songs in order to get people out of their seats and crowded onto the dance floor.

It amuses many students, and local Parkville residents, how the Legion, usually known for catering to an older generation, has become, 'THE place" for Park students to party. Amanda Irvin, Park student and new Legion bartender, agrees.

"It's weird that a bar full of bearded old guys swapping war stories has become the place to be seen," she said, quickly adding, "but it is within stumbling distance from the dorms."

Alcohol is sold for those over 21, but food can also be ordered for an affordable price.

Park is a dry campus, so residence hall students can walk over from their halls and walk back afterwards, without the worry of having a designated driver. Deister said that not all students come for the alcohol.

"I'd say about half of the kids drink while they're here," she said. "Awhile back I heard a rumor that underage people were drinking. I went out and made an announcement that this will not be tolerated and if they were caught, they would be barred from coming again. We stopped selling the pitchers of beer, in order to keep those from just sitting on the table where anyone could pour a glass. If we think someone has had too much, we will cut them off.

Park junior Emilio Servigon tests his singing prowess at a recent karaoke night.
Narva Photo/Kelley Walker-Chance

"People under the age of 21 are encouraged to come; our goal is to continue keeping it open for everyone. We have considered trying to use hand stamping for those of age in the future, but we're the Legion; we don't want to discriminate against anyone who is interested in coming. Some locals have told me, 'the Parkville police are watching you' and that just floored me. We take our liquor license very seriously. I'm glad we decided to do this. It's all about giving kids a safe place to go; that's what we're here for."

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Before becoming a Park University student hangout, the Legion building was a pool hall and a laundry mat. But no one should be surprised Park students have joined the crowd.

The Park connection dates to the very beginning of the Parkville unit. The Parkville American Legion is named for one of Parkville and Park University's long standing citizens, Leon A. Robbins, who was Post 318's first commander in 1941. Robbins was a math professor and department head at Park College from 1925-1961. He was also the mayor of Parkville twice and the head of athletics at Park.

The current building withstood the wrath of time and nature at least twice in the recent past. In October 1984, the American Legion was gutted by fire, leaving the building a charred skeleton. Members considered moving the location of the hall, and selling the remaining building. After consideration, they decided to rebuild in the current location.

Less than 10 years later, the Legion was ravaged again, this time by over nine feet of flood water from the Missouri River during the Great Flood of '93. The members bonded together and rebuilt the entire interior of the building once again, only this time, they purchased a small building behind the original building, and designed the bar area. They also built a new, larger kitchen, and renovated part of the newly purchased building, where Stone Canyon Pizza's offices are currently housed.

The Parkville American Legion gives more to the community than a place to sing karaoke. Each year Legion members send high school students to Boys and Girls State, sponsor athletic teams, and put together care packages for soldiers in Iraq. Each Memorial Day, Legion members also place flags on the graves of veterans, some dating back to the Civil War. The Parkville American Legion also bought each of the flag poles on Park's campus where the American flag, state flag and school flag are flown.

The Legion funds these projects through Friday night bingo, Sunday morning breakfast and monthly dinners throughout winter months, as well as with other donations from members.

Explorations and Transformations: 2012

By: Elizabeth Weese

For the last three years, selected faculty, staff, administrators, students, alumni and Parkville community members have been working on one document, "Explorations and Transformations 2012: Access to Excellence." This document will serve as the blueprint for where the university will be 12 years into the century.

The strategic plan for the university began with a charge from President Dr. Beverley Byers-Pevitts, to develop a comprehensive plan for the institution that would span 10 years. That charge was then divided into separate task forces filled with over 130 people in the Park community, until the document called "Explorations and Transformations 2012: Access to Excellence" was developed.

This plan will affect not only what is done on the Parkville campus but on every campus center Park University oversees in the country.

"There was representation of other campus centers besides Parkville either on the committee or the taskforce," said Dorla D. Watkins, vice president for finance and administration and chair of the strategic planning committee. "There were members of the board of trustees on the committee and the taskforce as well as students, alumni, and community members. There was a lot of involvement so that we could put together the best plan for Park University."

The university saw a need for this document shortly after Dr. Byers-Pevitts became president in 2001. With Park under new leadership, a document was needed to show exactly where the university should go in the future.

"Park needed a document like this like any other successful enterprise would need a business plan," said Watkins. "You have to have a direction on where you're going and how you see you're going to get there. You have everyone reading off of the same pages, you have everyone focused and moving in the same direction, thereby not allowing personnel to set their own agenda, because it has to align with the strategic plan."

Part of the job of the strategic planning committee was to develop new mission and vision statements for Park as well as a new set of goals and core values that could lead the university into the year 2012.

The mission statement of Park University, approved in Oct. 2002 is: "*The mission of Park University, an entrepreneurial institution of learning, is to provide access to academic excellence which will prepare learners to think critically, communicate effectively and engage in lifelong learning while serving a global community.*"

The vision statement, also approved in Oct. 2002 is: "*Park University will be a renowned international leader in providing innovative educational opportunities for learners within the global society.*"

Along with the development of these statements was the development of five core values the university should hold in mind when making decisions. Those values are, "*Importance of spirituality, importance of work, commitment to commonalities and differences, commitment to community among all peoples of the world, and commitment to service learning.*"

DORLA D. WATKINS, VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION AND CHAIR OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMITTEE SAYS ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE DOCUMENT AND THE FUTURE OF THEIR ALMA MATTER.
NARVA PHOTO/ MICHAEL TRANBARGER

With all of these details in place, the document went before the board of trustees for approval in Oct. 2003.

Since approval from the board, the plan has been finalized and presented to the public.

"We have done an evaluation for the board," said Watkins, "and there has been a document that has been published and has been shared not only with the board but also with the community indicating where we are in the plan and what we've completed and the percentages of where we are and where we're falling short or where we're ahead of the plan."

The final plan includes several different areas throughout the university that will be targeted before 2012. Among those areas are; scholarships, housing, image and branding of the university, campus locations, retention and graduation numbers.

According to the document, "Explorations and Transformations 2012: Access to Excellence," one task the plan will set to complete is to, "implement a consistent image and brand identity." The status of this task is set at 90 percent, with the goal of having the new mission and vision statements promoted to all Park constituencies.

Another goal of the plan is to, "institute a military relations plan," with an explanation of increasing the visibility and identity of Park at military installations and to expand the number of campus centers on military installations.

"(The strategic plan) directly affects where the institution is going now and in the future," says Watkins. "It talks not only about academic excel-

sweeps campus, affects whole University

lence, but also student services and plans for the future. It talks about one university and that affects students everywhere, across the country, along with the enhancement and the identity of Park and it affects students' lives today and their academic environment in which they learn, and it will also be very important to students when they see what their alma matter will be like in 2012."

Part of getting students to graduation is keeping them at Park throughout their entire education. Enrollment and retention are big topics in the strategic plan, where one goal is to, "endow a Presidential Honors Scholarship fund at $5 million to recruit and retain students."

"The student recruitment and retention would be the driving force on the decision making on new faculty," says Watkins.

She says that new faculty will not be hired as a direct result of the strategic plan being set in place, but that student numbers and needs will be the direct driving force of new faculty being hired, not the strategic planing document.

The university also has plans in the document which focus on new infrastructure including new buildings, programs and campus centers.

University officials, in an article in the Kansas City Star Nov. 14, 2004 announced plans to, "Develop a world-class performing arts center on the Parkville campus. The structure would have a recital hall and multiuse theater in addition to the performing arts center."

The plan mentions many ways Park wants to become more globally minded to follow the mission and vision statements, including a desire to, "increase the number of faculty who participate in student study abroad programs, faculty exchanges and/or other international programs."

The plan also focuses is on student life and student activities on campus. The plan states the desire to "develop a long-term plan for student life and athletics on the Parkville campus."

The plan uses the language of "academic excellence" to capture the entire college experience from course work to athletics as a whole.

"When you talk about academic excellence, you talk about bringing classroom standards up," Watkins says. "You have to have the technology in the room. The enhancement and the upgrades to the physical facilities is addressed in the plan, as well as the enhancement of student services, both face to face and online. It addresses technology of the future, services of the future, and what will be able to be done online. There are a lot of things that are going to affect the learning environment in which every student at Park University around the country will be exposed to."

Watkins says she is confident the plan will continue to work until the year 2012 for many reasons.

"I think this document is probably going to change," she says. "What you see is not set in stone; it will change as opportunities come up that were not conceived at the time the document was put in place."

Watkins also says students should be interested in the plan because Park University will continue to be here once the students have graduated, and alumni of Park should still be concerned about the direction the university is taking.

"I think this plan talks about lifelong learning," she says. "Students of today are lifelong learners of Park University forever. And they should always be interested in where their alma mater is going and how as alumni they can help, just as the students today help, we count on the alumni helping and supporting the institution. Everyone wants to be a part of a success story, and that's what Park is and will continue to be."

PARK
UNIVERSITY
PARK'S VISION
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in providing innovative educational opportunities
for learners within the global society.
PARK'S MISSION
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learners to think critically, communicate effectively and
engage in lifelong learning while serving a global community.

George W. Bush prevails as

By: Melissa Hershewe

President George W. Bush and Senator John F. Kerry pulled out all the stops in a long, hard-fought battle for the White House in the fall of 2004. As pre-election polls predicted, the race delivered on its promise to be close, with President Bush winning both the popular and electoral vote.

The war on terrorism and a range of moral issues shaped the 2004 campaign which brought more voters to the polls than at any time in more than three decades according to the Associated Press. The Kansas City *Star* confirmed Platte County reported 71 percent of registered voters cast ballots.

Many students voted for the first time in this presidential election.

Ozzie Greene, senior, was one of them. "I thought this was the most important voting election of my life," he said.

Johnna Coons, senior, said, "It was my first time to vote. I think every vote counts. If you don't vote, you don't have a right to voice your opinion."

During his Nov. 3, 2004, acceptance speech, President Bush reviewed his objectives for the next four years.

"We'll continue our economic progress. We'll reform our outdated tax code. We'll strengthen the Social Security for the next generation. We'll make public schools all they can be. And we will uphold our deepest values of family and faith.

"We will help the emerging democracies of Iraq and Afghanistan so they can grow in strength and defend their freedom. With good allies on our side, we will fight this war on terror with every resource of our national power so our children can live in freedom and in peace."

Presidential Election Results by State

Missouri	Bush 53% Kerry 46%
Kansas	Bush 62% Kerry 37%

Election results courtesy of cnn.com

Park students weighed in with reactions to the final outcome. While some think morals and values were the defining factor, others emphasized national security and the war on terrorism, which continued to be issue throughout 2005.

Overall, Bush's victory did not surprise student voters.

Roger White, senior, said, "I was at a church service back in the spring where I heard a pastor preaching about contemporary moral values, and he begged the entire church to get out and vote for Bush. I'm sure that the same message was given in countless other churches across America. Most Americans hold conservative values, and this year, values were an important factor for voters."

Greene backed Kerry because of his humanitarian policies. "I am a liberal," he said. "I supported Kerry's ideas about bringing the country together. I like what he said he was going to do in the African American and Latino communities. He wanted to do better in that area than Clinton did. We live in a conservative country. Kerry wanted to get everyone together.

"I was very furious about the outcome because I did not want Bush in office at all. I think he's torn this country apart. I believe he lied about everything, including the war. And, I am to the point that I don't even want to be in this country while he is in office. I think people voted for Bush out of fear. Fear of the unknown."

Coons confirmed Greene's supposition.

"If Kerry would have been elected, I'm afraid he would have withdrawn our troops. I had concerns they might have

President after close election

retaliated against us."

Brenda Carstedt, senior, said her reaction was positive. "I was relieved in a sense. If Kerry had won I think we would have seen many changes. What concerned me was that I don't know what those changes would have been. We really didn't know who Kerry was. Also I was happy he declined to recount. I thought that made him look good."

Roxanne Chrisman, junior, said "I was not surprised with the election results. Very rarely does an incumbent lose. I am very pleased that Bush will be serving another four years."

Both parties will have open fields in the 2008 presidential election. Potential candidates are already emerging.

Republican hopefuls include former New York City mayor, Rudy Giuliani, Arizona Senator John McCain, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist of Tennessee, and California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Schwarzenegger; however, has the disadvantage of being Austrian-born, thereby making him ineligible for the presidency. There is talk of a "Draft Arnold" movement which would require a constitutional amendment to make him eligible to run.

Democrat John Edwards pledged to stay in the political arena during his speech following the Nov. 2 election. And, New York Senator Hillary Clinton is an early favorite, according to USA Today, emerging as a frontrunner at the close of 2005.

"Hillary Clinton is on every list and would be an early favorite. Her approval rating in New York went from 38 percent in February 2001 to a high of 61 percent in Oct. 2004, suggesting she has expanded her appeal beyond Democratic diehards. But it's unclear whether she could do that nationally.

"She's still a New Yorker, and people still view her as liberal," said independent analyst Stuart Rothenberg, who publishes a political newsletter. Regardless of her origins and voting record, he said, those perceptions are 'a significant problem' for her.

"In the wake of Kerry's defeat, Democrats have been pondering how they can appeal to more voters on issues of national security and moral values," said Rothenberg.

Greene, however, looks to the future. "I am ready to support Hillary in 2008. It's time for our first female president."

Meanwhile, the next three years will be navigated by President Bush, who said he is proud of our country and its citizens, as he charted his course optimistically in 2004.

"There's an old saying, 'Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks.' In four historic years, America has been given great tasks, and faced them with strength and courage. Our people have restored the vigor of this economy, and shown resolve and patience in a new kind of war. Our military has brought justice to the enemy, and honor to America. Our nation has defended itself, and served the freedom of all mankind. I'm proud to lead such an amazing country, and I'm proud to lead it forward."

Other local election results

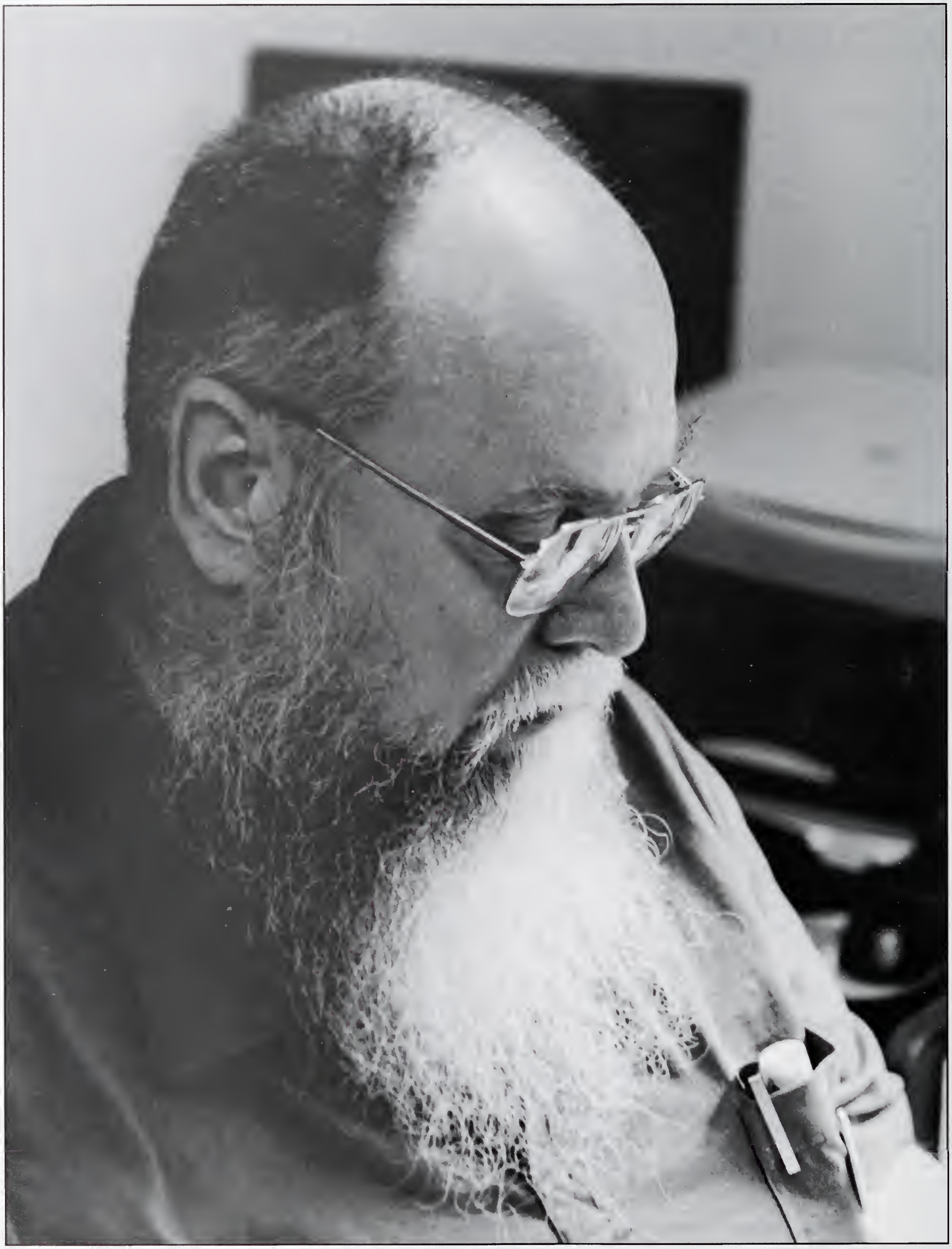
Kansas Senate
(R) Brownback 69%
(D) Jones 28%

Missouri Senate
(R) Bond 56%
(D) Farmer 43%

Kansas House
(R) Moran
(R) Ryun
(D) Moore
(R) Tiahrt

Missouri House
(D) Clay
(R) Akin
(D) Carnahan
(D) Skelton
(D) Cleaver
(R) Graves
(R) Blunt
(R) Emerson
(R) Hulshof

Election results courtesy of cnn.com



People of Iraq vote:

Will a legitimate government emerge? Political analysts 'not very optimistic'

By: Elizabeth Weese

On Jan. 30, 2005, the people of Iraq exercised a right they haven't had in half a century. A right that some Americans tend to take for granted. A right that cost at least 28 people their lives.

The *New York Times* reported those who were killed while voting were hailed as martyrs. A CNN story said, "Insurgents had vowed to wash the streets with 'voters' blood."

The people of Iraq who decided to vote on Jan. 30 did so with the knowledge that they could face violence and attacks. The pictures on American news stations showed some voters treated this day like a religious holiday, wearing their best clothes and perfumes. The celebrations that took place after voting mirrored Mardi Gras in New Orleans, only these people had a real reason to celebrate.

Dr. Ronald Brecke, professor of political science said the future of Iraq will depend on how the regime is organized and drafted.

"A regime is the people in power," Brecke said. "It's going to be different for different groups. In a monarchy, legitimacy isn't granted from the bottom up, rather from God if you are divine, or by heredity. If it's a democracy, legitimacy and ultimate sovereignty rests with the people. So then you have to define the people."

Brecke said that even in United States political history, people were first defined as being white male landowners, then, throughout history; the government has come to recognize all Americans as people in the regime.

"But, could you say the government of 1800 was any less legitimate than the government of 2004?" Brecke questioned. "So again, legitimacy is relevant to how you're defining the regime itself."

Brecke said the turnout numbers could be meaningful, but only if the numbers are true, and not skewed by the Bush administration.

"It was the intent of George Bush to have 57 percent turnout rather than 40 or 30 or whatever it might be," Brecke said. "He wanted high turnout so he could say all of the people came out so this is what they wanted. So all of the fighting, killing and dying was worth it.

> ***"Of about 8.56 million votes cast in the election, the United Iraqi Alliance received 4.08 million, the combined Kurdish parties garnered 2.17 million and the Iraqi list of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi got 1.17 million."***
>
> ***—cnn.com report***

"From what I understand, the Sunnis did not participate to an extent anyway. If the Sunnis did not participate then you have a question of legitimacy for this election."

According to an article from the Associated Press in the *New York Times*, "Iraq's leading Sunni Muslim clerics said the country's landmark elections lacked legitimacy because large numbers of Sunnis did not participate in the balloting, which the religious leaders had asked them to boycott."

According to Brecke, this information suggests the illegitimacy of the Iraqi elections; therefore, proving the illegitimacy of whatever regime is formed from the elections.

Allan Cigler, professor of political science at the University of Kansas, said, "You can have an election but it's the performance of the government that determines the legitimacy of the regime. I think regimes have to earn things like legitimacy."

Part of making an election legitimate is including all of the people. In Iraq in this important election, women were allowed to vote. Brecke said the inclusion of women in the process happened largely because of the influence of the United States.

"The influence of the United States in the process was immense," Brecke said. "I sincerely doubt that as a first election in a Middle East country, women would have been allowed to vote if it would have been up to the inhabitants of the country itself. Look at Kuwait. Women are still oppressed there. So I would argue that if the United States didn't have as much influence in Iraq you would have the same thing as you have in Kuwait."

According to CNN, 66 percent of registered voters cast their vote in the first two days of the election. Only 52 percent of registered voters in the United States voted in 2004. Brecke said this says a lot about the American people.

"On one hand, this says that complacency exists about politics and government in America," said Brecke. "It also says that alienation exists. That people feel alienated from their government and I'm sure it says for some, satisfaction for the general success of the regime. They don't care who's in office. The degree of alienation will determine whether this is a legitimate regime in America or not. But we'll never find that out."

Brecke said he is worried about the future of Iraq once the building of the government begins in 2005 and 2006.

"As long as we stay there with 120,000 troops and give as much protection and have as much power as we do, then you will find Iraq developing, more democratic set of offices," Brecke said. "If we leave within the next 20 years, I think you would see a rapid deterioration of democracy and an abandonment of those democratic institutions.

"With the Sunnis not participating, you've got the makings of a civil war. It will be important for the government, whoever it may be; if they aren't inclusive in their approach to government and share the power then they're going to have a civil war on their hands."

Cigler agrees with Brecke about security and stability in the country.

"They're going to have to show independent ability to handle their own security," he said.

"I wish them all the luck in the world," Brecke said. "But I'm not very optimistic."

Enrollment and graduation rates of women

By: Cynthia Weber

Socially constructed gender roles have come a long way from popular television shows like "Leave it to Beaver" and characters such as June Cleaver. First, trade in the apron and meatloaf for a textbook and diploma. Then, tap into Marx's idea that capitalism will give way to socialism in an economic system by which the means of production are owned by all the people and wealth is distributed equally, and welcome to what could be the first "female century" in education. Although the wealth is not quite an equal distribution, the means of production is gaining ground.

Across the nation colleges and universities are witnessing a substantial and increasing gender gap in classrooms. Women now earn 57 percent of all bachelor of arts degrees and 58 percent of all master's degrees in the United States alone. According to The National Center For Policy Analysis (NCPA), in 1950 women earned only 24 percent of bachelor's degrees. By 1997 females earned 56 percent-- a 32 percent increase in 47 years. The United States Education Department projects this number to grow.

Although exact figures of enrollment for the Parkville campus of Park University could not be obtained, it may be similar to the national trend. An informal count in classrooms by *Stylus* staff members during the spring semester of 2004 suggested the Parkville campus could be about two-thirds women.

Figures for the entire Park University student body were released. They showed that in 2002, 81 more women than men were enrolled in all Park University courses among the 10,123 full time students nationwide.

What does this mean?

Carol Getty, PhD, associate professor of criminal justice, says the glass ceiling is about to crumble.

"I think it's estimated that by the year 2020 more than 50 percent of the workforce will be female," Getty says. "There is a group of women coming out of college who will, perhaps, crash through the glass ceiling which still exists."

Getty also says women are now concentrating on careers and waiting until their 30s to get married. She sees a generation of women who have witnessed divorce and chosen not to have children or go down a traditional road to protect themselves.

Senior Susan Speelman, a public administration major and political science minor, sees education as a means of protection.

"When I was growing up my mom, aunt and grandma did not have that option," Speelman recalls. "I know to

STATISTICS SHOW WOMEN EARNING 57 PERCENT OF ALL BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREES AND 58 PERCENT OF ALL MASTER'S DEGREES.

NARVA PHOTO/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

far exceed those of their male counterparts

get to the point where I want to be, education is the only way to get there. People have often called me naïve, but I do believe I can make a difference."

Traditional attitudes of women are changing, says Getty.

"Women want to be in the decision making process," Getty says. "Although corporate America is making improvements for women, society will have to make some big changes. If not I think you will see women waiting much later or even quit having babies until they are in upper management positions addressing these issues."

Has motherhood been the barrier all along?

Dr. Leslie Ashbaugh, professor of anthropology at the University of Washington, believes motherhood can be an obstacle.

"As long as women remain the primary caretakers of children, I see their marginalization continuing in the workforce, regardless of their numbers represented there," Ashbaugh contends. "While women may be liberated, mothers are not. There is a large price to pay for parenting and women are the ones who pay it."

Professor of cultural and psychological studies in education, also at the University of Washington, Dr. Diane Gillespie, holds a different view.

"Many women continue to major in traditional female majors such as psychology, social work, human resources and education, which are low paying jobs," Gillespie says. "Even though women are gaining momentum in law and medicine, they still lag behind their male counterparts in attaining positions that command higher salaries; they are not promoted to higher administrative posts."

The Census Bureau reports that women who obtain their bachelor's degree can earn 75 percent more than a high school educated woman. Yet 82 percent of school-to-work parents cited having to care for a child as the single most important reason for not seeking a post secondary education, according to Diversity Digest.

Speelman wants this opportunity to be clear for women.

"Just because a woman chooses to be a parent doesn't mean she is not succeeding," she says. "But there is no reason for anyone not to go to school."

For some it may not be as easy as Speelman suggests. However, with new technology allowing just about anyone to obtain a degree online, it is possible for mothers to get an education from home. Thus, a degree via the Internet may also attribute to the growing numbers of women seeking a degree.

Where are all the men? Is there a reason to worry?

A Business Newsweek article points out that 90 percent of the world's billionaires are men. Although some men opt out of college to pursue jobs in construction and repair work which promise good salaries without a degree, they still dominate in the highest paying jobs with leading-edge industries such as engineering, investment banking and high tech—sectors that still power the economy.

One report in 2003 suggested that universities are now recruiting harder for male enrollment to the extent that some colleges are biased in giving financial aid and scholarships in order to persuade men, perhaps a changing value, but not a shared one.

With 20 percent of college presidents now women, the shift in gender balance presents an interesting conflict. Where was all the worry when colleges were a male majority?

If women have decision making powers in colleges, how will that affect recruitment bias and curriculum?

Getty reminds, "My PhD is as good as yours," she stresses. "Academia is a world where statistically women excel over men and you are beginning to see women catapult into roles of greater responsibility."

In 1953, seven percent of law degrees were awarded to women and 40 percent of women took full-time jobs upon graduation. Now they earn 47 percent of law degrees, and 90 percent take on full-time jobs.

Finally, one statistic fits every state, every income level, and every racial group. Women hold the majority in a college education.

Will there be a day in America where men do all the work and women do all the thinking?

"While women may be liberated, mothers are not. There is a large price to pay for parenting and women are the ones who pay it."

—Dr. Leslie Ashbaugh, professor of anthropology at the University of Washington

Criminal justice professor takes

By: Melissa Hershewe

Dr. Carol Getty has spent much of her life in prison.

No, the associate professor of criminal justice has not been an inmate. The vibrant woman, with perfectly manicured fingernails, has a resume that boasts such daunting positions as member and vice chairperson for the Arizona Board of Pardons and Paroles, United States Parole Commission, Regional Commissioner for North Central, appointed by President Reagan, United States Parole Commission Chairperson—the first woman appointed in agency history and the only woman to have held this position since—appointed by the first President George Bush.

She's dedicated her career striving to improve and advance American society. Recently, Getty turned her focus toward facilitating new endeavors for Park University's proposed international exchange program. While on sabbatical fall of 2004, Getty traveled to Taiwan. Later, she traveled to China.

"I went to two different universities in Taiwan," says Getty. "One was called Ming Chaun and the other Tamkang. I taught at both universities. And, I did a lot of networking. Dr. Michael Droge, (provost and senior vice president) Olga Ganzen, (director of international education and study abroad) and Dr. Tom Peterman (vice president for distance learning) had been to Ming Chaun before. We have a board member, who may be the nicest man I ever met in my life. His name is Bennie Lee. He had set up the visit previously, so I was sort of the follow-up.

"We have a memorandum of understanding with Ming Chaun. I went to fill in the details. How are we going to do this? We want to move forward with more specific ideas. We're still debating. We're looking at programs like 2+2 and 2+3 which means you would go two years at Park and two years at one of those universities. When you got done you would have a degree from both universities. Two plus three might be that you have a degree here and go someplace else for three years and you end up with a master's degree and an undergraduate degree.

"We're hoping to have Internet exchanges, faculty exchanges, we're hoping to have broad research, team taught classes. I wanted to try to find a short-term program. I went because I was on sabbatical and that was great, but what I'd like to see is a whole bunch more faculty going for three weeks. I would like to find a way for students to have a short-term experience. Most people can't go for a long period of time.

"There are accreditation problems and other legal problems, I think, that have to be worked out. But that's actually where we're going. It's not an exchange program."

Getty was impressed by the people and culture of Taiwan. Before departing, she says she spent considerable time reading and studying traditions and current issues which were valuable in her discussions.

"I was a very respected person. I was absolutely honored by the people. It wasn't because I was American. It was because I am a professor. They value their professors. They believe an educated person is a very, very special person. My students would give me gifts almost every class. I don't mean big gifts—things like a bouquet of flowers or some tea. Fortunately I had read enough to know they are really big on the gift thing. Park had given me little promotional items, like sticky notes, to hand out." Getty says her hosts were gracious. Aware of her criminal justice background and expertise, she thinks they knew of one activity she would be interested in. She was offered a tour of a local women's prison.

'The United States is not going to dominate in the same way it does now. We are a super power, <u>the</u> super power right now. And it is my sense that China will become a super power...'
—Dr. Carol Getty

"For me it was a wonderful experience. It was much nicer than the prisons here. It was very nice, very new. I walked in and all of the staff saluted, they saluted the warden and me. They stood at attention. It was so tidy and clean, I didn't think many of the cells were occupied. They allowed children to live with their mothers up until three years of age. They ran nursery schools, they had programs. I was extremely impressed. It was a beautiful facility."

She says one of the more challenging and fascinating aspects of traveling to Southeast Asia is eating—without the aid of students or the use of English-language menus or signs.

"I loved the food. First of all, it was very cheap. There were a lot of mom-and-pop shops outside campus. There was a dumpling shop, then a rice shop, and then a noodle shop.

"You go in and pick up a ticket. You are supposed to check off what you want to eat and your table number. Then, they deliver the meal to your table. Of course, I didn't have a clue what any of this said."

Using basic survival skills and wit, Getty was able to fashion an effective method to overcome the language obstacle.

"I did a bunch of things," says Getty. "I knew when I went to the noodle shop I liked the sixth thing down on the menu. I memorized where things were. If that didn't work, then I would go in and point to things. I would go to someone's table and smile while showing them my menu. They would show me where the item was on the menu. Or, I would watch them cook and then I would point to something, hand them the menu and they'd check off what it was.

"Breakfast was between 60 and 80 cents, lunch was $2.70. At dinner, if I ate on my own, I usually ate at one of the noodle shops. I ate for four weeks for $274."

Political issues were top-of-mind in Taiwan, says Getty.

"There were a couple of things I actually never wanted to talk about and they always wanted to talk about," she says. "They were the presidential election, which was happening right about then and the Taiwan-China debate.

"They are by race, ethnicity and background very similar; however, China is still a communist country and Taiwan is a democracy. China believes Taiwan belongs to China. It's a very big issue; their country is very, very divided about it. I did not want to talk about it because I don't have a strong enough background to have a really good opinion. I had done a lot of reading before I went; I understood the issue but tried never to give my opinion. Who am I to have an opinion?

global learning all the way to China

"The United States supports Taiwan and has for years. This relationship is in our paper almost every week and it certainly is in their paper and is under discussion almost daily. I learned that China and Southeast Asia is really where it's at. The big powers of the world in the next decade or so are going to be China and the United States. The United States is not going to dominate in the same way it does now. We are a super power, the super power right now. And it is my sense that China will become a super power. It's not just my sense, if you read.

"There are 2 billion people in China. You take these 2 billion people working and studying English and American education. It will be interesting to see how the Chinese people become capitalists while still communist. They still have a communist regime, but they're joining the capitalist world. What used to be made in Taiwan is now made in China. That's where cheap labor is. So the Chinese are coming off the farms, the small-time farmers are now getting paid good money. That's why China is going to be a different place. Nobody knows what it is going to look like, but it's not gonna look the way it does now. So, that's why I feel very fortunate to have been there and to get a glimpse of this. I want a lot more people to get there.

Getty says she is grateful for the opportunity to represent Park University and further the international exchange program.

"The entire trip cost the university $1854—the whole thing. Park paid for my food and lodging. It is my sense that I did a great deal for that kind of buck.

"I had a wonderful trip and I just want a lot of people to have the same experience. I think any travel you do is wonderful, but Southeast Asia is particularly interesting because it is so foreign to us. Traveling alone is a very interesting experience because I really had to observe. I paid attention with intensity. It's sort of like being the driver or the passenger in a car. When you're the driver, you know how to get there. I had heightened senses because I had to learn a way to survive and do things. It was a wonderful experience."

Dr. Carol Getty, associate professor of criminal justice, traveled to Taiwan to teach at Ming Chaun University.

Narva Photo/ Kelley Walker-Chance

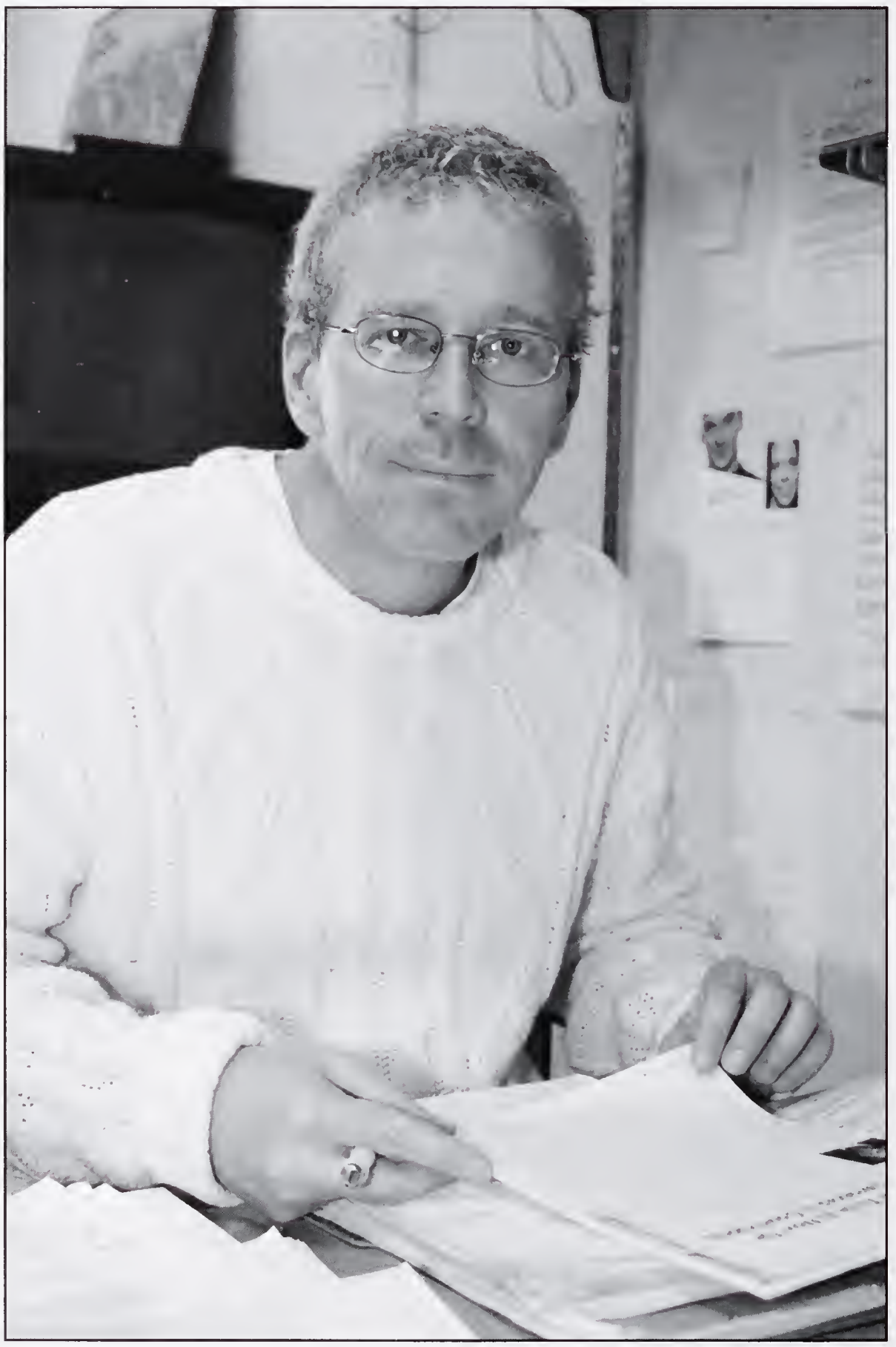
Youngblood ships off to Brazil to build bridges

By: Nick Dupont

Making international ties doesn't happen via e-mail. Building offices for partnerships with other nations doesn't happen during a phone conversation. And delicious sticks of "quejo" cheese don't materialize out of a fax machine. It takes the people skills of an ambassador, the strength of willing hands, and the sizzling hot grills of the Brazilian sports stadium.

Sounds like a lifetime of adventure. Assistant Professor of Communication Arts Steven Youngblood and his colleagues did it all in less than nine days.

Dr. Sapna Gupta and administrator Laura Lane accompanied Youngblood and 13 others to the communities of Olinda and Recife, Brazil from Jan. 14-23. Two of those days were spent at the university of Faculdade Boa Viagem (FBV) with 2,200 students studying economics, business, marketing administration, accounting, and product engineering among others.



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION ARTS STEVEN YOUNGBLOOD TRAVELED TO BRAZIL IN JANUARY 2005, TO PROMOTE PARK AND LEARN MORE ABOUT EDUCATION IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

NARVA PHOTO/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

"They're most interested in online learning, offering master's degrees online, and starting classes that would be team-taught by Park and FBV faculty. We're trying to create dual degree and faculty exchange programs."

The meeting with FBV Academic Director Dr. Lucian Bejan yielded a timetable for implementing the programs, including online Portuguese language classes for Park students.

An entire day was dedicated to visiting Faculdade de Ciencias Humanas de Olinda (FACHO), a non-profit university teaching 1,200 students, half of whom live in poverty. The school, founded by Benedictine nuns, includes a 30 student academy for the deaf and counseling center staffed with professional psychiatrists.

"We heard the story of one disturbed boy who started out there painting in only black," he said. "Today he's a wonderful artist with Picasso-like flair for flamboyant colors. His artwork is displayed throughout the university's corridors. It's even sold to the public."

Youngblood and his colleagues spent most of the trip teaching seminars at the Pau Amerelu (Yellow Wood) Community, a Christian outreach organization running several community-betterment projects. The community also carries a commitment to aiding the impoverished. Youngblood came to appreciate the students enthusiasm.

"One morning I spent the first session teaching to a community group of students, teachers, business owners volunteer workers, and reps from NGO's (non-government organizations)," he said. "We talked about how to organize and give a seminar, then discussed public relations campaigns and how their organizations might benefit from an effective PR strategy. The audience of 30 women and one man was delightful. They were talkative, energetic, and engaged. It reminded me of why I love teaching."

But erecting relationships was only half the job that day.

"It's not often my work day consists of teaching in the morning and helping to put up support beams in the afternoon," Youngblood said. "Then again, it's not often I'm in Recife, Brazil." The beams he

for Park, buildings for Faculdade Boa Viagem

spoke of were those of a 30 X 70 metal building the rest of his group was building.

"I managed to free up several hours to lend an extremely small hand in the construction of the building," he said. "It's going to be used for meetings, seminars, and things of that nature. They were putting up support beams, and my job was to help lift the beams into place. The construction guys even humored me and let me use a crescent wrench to tighten the bolts that hold the beam onto the foundation. Given my handy-man skills, or lack thereof, it'll be a small miracle if the building isn't carried away by the first stiff breeze."

Youngblood said he hopes to return with some of his students to the area and start another service project.

"I hate clichés, especially corny ones," he said. "So, forgive me for this one—it really is true that giving is better than receiving. Who knows, they might even let me wield a wrench again if our building hasn't floated away yet."

Youngblood also enjoyed play when he wasn't busy with establishing friendships and buildings. As he witnessed the encounter between the local soccer "Sport" team and their visiting opponents, he encountered some unique Brazilian food.

"The hunk of 'quejo' I ate weighed at least a pound," he said. "It was mild white cheese charred briefly over an open flame. It was so tasty; I ate every bite. I even nibbled tiny cheesy remnants off the stick. I believe I ate some wood.

"I also had a chicken shish-kebab which I've had before, but this one was still good, lean, and smoky. And cheap. So again, some wood may have been consumed."

His food consumption was complemented with the consumption of an action-filled soccer contest—Brazilian style.
"I did manage to see an exciting, fast paced soccer match," he said. "The visitors won 2-1, despite the 'we'll kill them' guarantee made before the match by our congenial host Renato. The fans were just as rabid as they are at any American sporting event, maybe more so. In fact, two young men almost started a fracas about why the Sport lost—a bad penalty, or bad coaching. I believe the real reason Sport lost was somehow concessions-related."

The soccer game is now in the record books, the partnerships with the universities forged, and the building stands underneath the China-blue skies of Brazil. But the people who walk the brick streets may be what stand strongest in Youngblood's mind.

"The entire experience with these ladies and the folks at the Yellow Wood community was wonderful," he said. "The community's leaders, volunteers, and the dozens of kids who hang out there learning, talking, and playing soccer, were warm and welcoming. I loved the kids who were curious, open, energetic, and a great deal of fun to be around."

Stylus staff brings home 19 awards from state competition

The Park University *Stylus* won three awards in the In-Depth News Reporting category—first, second and honorable mention—at the 2005 Missouri Student Media Association annual contest. The awards were presented April 10, 2005, in Lee's Summit, Mo., at a banquet for participating schools statewide.

In all, the *Stylus* won 19 awards, in addition to Best Overall Newspaper in its division and runner-up in the Sweepstakes competition in its division.

No speaker was provided at this year's ceremony.

In all, the *Stylus* won five first place awards. Janet Narron was judged first in In-Depth reporting, Kelli Bamforth was chosen first for regular column, Kelley Walker-Chance was awarded first in feature photography, Chris Heifner first in story illustration and the *Stylus* first in sports page design. Kevin Scobee was awarded first in sports column writing for a column he wrote as a student at Maple Woods Community College.

In her final year as *Stylus* editor, Elizabeth Weese took the long way to the stage to collect the first place honor for Best Overall Newspaper and second place in the Sweepstakes contest. The *Stylus* has placed first or second in Sweepstakes every year she has been editor. She was awarded second place for In-Depth News Reporting. Bamforth, who followed Weese as editor, was awarded honorable mention in the In-Depth category.

Melissa Hershewe won second place for investigative reporting. Kelley Walker-Chance was awarded second place in news photography and Emily Farley took second place for information graphic and story illustration. Weese won second place for editorial writing.

Contributors to the winning sports page design included Weese, Hershewe, Bamforth, Preston Faudre, Nick Dupont and Heifner.

Contributors to the best overall newspaper included Weese, Bamforth, Farley, Walker-Chance, Narron, Laura Sperry, Dupont, Faudre, Deborah Morgan, Hershewe, Tara Briggs, Sage Isenmann, Stacy Wiedmaier, Ryan Duncan and Brian McCart.

Stylus staff members pictured: John Lofflin, advisor, Cherie Journee, Kelli Bamforth, Elizabeth Weese, Kelley Walker-chance, Nick Dupont and Tara Briggs

Park graduate reflects on four years of lessons, pitfalls, accomplishments

By: Janet Narron

For those observing campus dynamics in recent years, noses pressed firmly to the looking glass, Elizabeth Weese, Park University 2005 graduate, with a double major in journalism and public relations, was the consummate overachiever.

According to Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary, an overachiever is 'one who achieves success over and above the standard or expected level, especially at an early age.' However, Weese does not share the views of the common observer when reflecting on her time at Park. For her, a person can never truly overachieve. Her goal is to make a difference, have an impact, and leave a footprint. And so, in retrospect of an undeniably successful college career, 'the elephant remains in the room,' because, for Weese, only time will tell what footprints she may have left behind.

"I am a bit unclear and really unsure as to whether anything I did on campus will make a lasting impression," says Weese. "I didn't really speak at a big event or win any big awards. I certainly didn't build a building, but I did always try to do what I believed to be the right thing regarding the newspaper and my other activities, throughout my college career, even when I knew it might hurt.

"I suppose, if I had any regrets about my time at Park," Weese continues, "it would be that perhaps I didn't do enough. I guess it's only natural, after pouring so much of yourself into a certain part of your life, to look back and wonder. Did I make a difference? Will anyone remember I was there?"

> ***"When I arrived at Park, my hair in bows," says Weese, "I was convinced I would conquer the world, and I would do so effortlessly, as I adjusted to being away from home for the first time."***

In four years at Park, Weese's name became attached to a substantial list of campus activities. Involved with the theater department throughout her undergraduate studies, she performed in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' 'Madwoman From Chaillot,' 'Acting Beyond Prejudice,' and landed the lead role her junior year in the play 'Sylvia,' portraying one of her favorite creatures on the planet, a dog. She also maintained a significant role on the public relations end of the theater, providing flyer creation/distribution as well as promotions via the campus newspaper.

Weese's desire to become a part of Park University spread over the campus like a net.

She served in student government for three years, taking a turn at Student Life Committee Chair. She was a cheerleader, president of the theater club, member of the residence hall council, helped plan the Park sponsored Leadership Luau for middle school girls for three years, helped launch the campus coffee shop, Pirate Grounds, and continued on as chief operating officer for nearly three years, while serving four years as writer turned editor for the campus newspaper, the *Stylus*.

In the midst of these activities, Weese continued to strive for excellence in the classroom, graduating Magna Cum Laude. In the end, it would be the painful, gleeful growing pains of the campus newspaper, with Weese as editor five semesters, drilling to her core, teaching and molding her, in part, into the person she is today.

"The *Stylus* kicked my butt screaming into adulthood," says Weese with a smile. "The *Stylus* became an unplanned huge part of my life." Weese, now working in restaurant management, cannot imagine majoring in anything other than journalism and public relations.

"When I came to Park, I didn't have a major," Weese explains. "I created a church newsletter the summer before college and I really liked it. Then my freshmen year I joined the *Stylus* staff and the first time I saw one of my stories in print, I was hooked. There was no turning back. I had become a journalism major, and with a few more classes, a public relations major as well."

ELIZABETH WEESE SHOWN AT A *STYLUS* BARBECUE HER JUNIOR YEAR. "MY FIRST SEMESTER AS EDITOR, I BARELY SURVIVED," SHE SAYS. "IT WAS AN ISSUE-TO-ISSUE ENDURANCE TEST."

NARVA PHOTO/JANET NARRON

In January 2003, Weese's sophomore year, the editor for the *Stylus* graduated. No one was scrambling to take on the responsibility and so Weese volunteered.

"My first semester as editor, I barely survived," says Weese. "It was an issue-to-issue endurance test. Over the summer I contemplated the paper; how could I make the process easier and make the paper better at the same time? First and foremost, I needed a staff. I worked hard finding good people, getting them interested, and then recruiting them. I developed a specific schedule for *Stylus* assignments, deadlines, and press dates. I was determined to stick to the schedule in the

face of life, death, tears, natural disasters, tests, and even the occasional late night.

"When it was suggested I ease back on the schedule to relieve some pressure," Weese reflects, "a lot of crying and screaming ensued, and it became quite clear to others how important the schedule was for me. Some of the hardest things I had to deal with at Park were actually life lessons, difficult but necessary lessons. I learned them because of my role, and as I grew into my role with the *Stylus*. For instance, lesson number one, everyone has an opinion and some people just live to criticize.

Four years of tears and triumphs later, Weese walked across the stage to receive her diploma in May 2005.

Narva Photo/Janet Narron

"I put my heart, soul, time, and tears into the newspaper," Weese confides, "and in the end, I had to realize that the *Stylus* was not mine. It was not printed for me. It was a struggle knowing I was sticking my neck out. I was trying to learn my job as editor and improve the paper all at the same time. I had to write good, bad, long, short, serious, boring, stupid and, yes, even sports stories, while simultaneously learning to assign stories, delegate responsibility, and design each issue's layout. Days and weeks would go by, the paper would come out, and people would scurry to find every mistake they could and then throw it in my face. That was hard."

Before and during her senior year, Weese posed this question to herself and the *Stylus* staff: Where do we, as students, want to see the paper go? Early meetings consisted of brainstorming story ideas, format and issues. Throughout the semester those ideas would be implemented and the stories assigned. It was Weese's hope that the process would give the staff more ownership of the newspaper, a type of 'for the students/by the students' approach.

Ultimately, in the face of criticism, Weese learned some valuable lessons. With them she found solace and redemptive strength. She would continue striving to create what she believed was a worthy paper. Validation would come for Weese as the *Stylus* received numerous awards from the Missouri College Media Association during the time she served as editor.

"I finally realized the eager critics were never around at 2 a.m.," explains Weese, "trying to meet a story deadline or get the paper to press after a 20 hour day. And just when you think no one is paying attention, reading, or listening, you find out they are. They eventually tell you and that makes all of the late nights worth it. The first time I saw people walking around on campus, reading the *Stylus*, it was an unbelievable feeling. I felt like a parent."

And, as it turns out, feeling like a parent sits high atop Weese's personal wish list. With potential and career possibilities laid out before her, if you were to give Weese a word association test, the results would begin with... future/stay at home mom, dream/stay at home mom, goal/stay at home mom, and so on.

"I can think of no greater job than to raise children," Weese proclaims. "I want to raise children who are respectful, and have values along with a solid sense of family. I don't want someone else to raise my children. My parents always made a point of being a part of my life. Having that background myself, I can see no other way to do family. I have always wanted to be a mom, as long as I can remember."

Weese unearths an impressive assortment of supplies while digging through her purse for a tissue. She looks up grinning and says, "See, I'm already a mom. I carry everything because somebody always needs something."

On any college campus, student experiences stretched over a four-year period will bring about innumerable degrees of personal transformation. As Weese dissects her time at Park, she finds a series of epiphanies concerning life and human nature. They progressively coincide with each year of her collegiate experience. The timeline stretches from a wide-eyed freshman to a college graduate facing the professional world.

"When I arrived at Park, my hair in bows," says Weese, "I was convinced I would conquer the world, and I would do so effortlessly, as I adjusted to being away from home for the first time." While unpacking her bags of naiveté, she realized she might have been wrong.

"I had no idea being away from my family would require such an adjustment," Weese explains. "I will never feel like I can do anything without the support of my family, but I had to realize it was ok to get involved and do things without going home so often. Once I could accept this notion, meeting people and participating became easier. I think college is a little bit like middle school. You go where you don't know anyone and you have to make a fresh start."

> ***"The Stylus kicked my butt screaming into adulthood," says Weese with a smile. "The Stylus became an unplanned huge part of my life. I put my heart, soul, time, and tears into the newspaper, and in the end, I had to realize that the Stylus was not mine. It was not printed for me. It was a struggle knowing I was sticking my neck out."***

Weese, like others, would find attempting to protect your reputation, and not be labeled because of the friends you choose, a tricky endeavor, while each passing friendly face was, in reality, a complete stranger.

Sophomore year brought about more independence and

more responsibility as Weese refined her circle of friends and support group. According to Weese, a sad but necessary realization occurred, the harsh lesson of imperfection.

"Reality hit me," Weese says, "as I finally understood first-hand that people were out for themselves. People are not perfect and the world is even more imperfect." As the academic year dissolved into summer, Weese would rebound and move into her junior year feeling on top of everything.

"At the time," Weese continues, "I thought this must be as good as it gets. My school life, social life, and personal life were humming along smoothly." But Weese would soon find herself feeling quite alone, and somewhat apprehensive, as several close friends marched across the commencement stage and faded into the future.

"That was a low point for me," admits Weese. "I thought I would never make it through my senior year without those people. As it turned out, it was just another hard lesson, another reality check. People move on and everything changes, but I really didn't want anything to change at the time."

Then, in what had become a symmetrical high/low pattern for Weese, the lows would transition upward never lasting too long.

"The summer before my senior year was a great time of life for me," Weese proclaims. "I was so relaxed; living a beach bum's life without the beach. At least that's how it felt. I was taking three summer classes, bartending, and lounging poolside; living the college life. I had seen successes in my three years at Park and somehow felt I was finally the girl I had always envied. I imagine years from now, I will look back on the summer of 2004 with pains of nostalgia and longing." The joys of summer would soon become shrouded in a severe case of 'senioritis.'

"I really had it bad," says Weese. "I did not want to come back to school, but I knew I had a year filled with obligations. It was time to find replacements for the *Stylus* and for Pirate Grounds. I truly wanted to prepare others to move forward with the things that had become such a big part of me and so close to my heart."

As the homestretch to graduation rose on the horizon, Weese found herself doing what she had always done, questioning the world, only now it was more serious.

"My senior year I became very critical of everything," Weese explains. "I had spent four years trying to please other people and finally realized you cannot live your life that way. In the end you only have yourself. I was lucky though, because in the midst of my attempts to please others, I had found myself. I had found perspective and my place from which to view the world.

"My final lesson from Park University arrived a few days before graduation," Weese says, her voice softening. "I looked around at all the people who have chosen to carry Park forward through all the ups and downs, the people who truly understand that the history and the soul of Park looms larger than any of life's fleeting trivialities, looms larger than any one person who may pass through those halls. I finally understood that Park would always prevail, just as each individual should prevail, no matter the number of forces chipping away at our souls. I truly hope to pass this lesson on, 20 or 30 years from now, to yet another student wandering the halls of Park University, wide-eyed and filled with questions.

> ***"My final lesson from Park University arrived a few days before graduation. I looked around at all the people who have chosen to carry Park forward through all the ups and downs, the people who truly understand that the history and the soul of Park looms larger than any of life's fleeting trivialities, looms larger than any one person who may pass through those halls. I finally understood that Park would always prevail..."***
>
> ***Elizabeth Weese,***
> ***2005 Park graduate***

"It was certainly imperative, as a journalist," Weese continues, "for me to continually ask questions of Park, as an institution. As students, Park is there to serve us, and as alumni, we in turn must serve Park. Park University will always be a part of me. I wanted those at the top to know I was watching. It is our responsibility, as students, and as members of humanity, to always question those who hold power. When the questions stop, people get sloppy and apathy takes charge. Never, ever, ever stop asking questions. They are the foundation for all that we know."

"My parents always made a point of being a part of my life," Weese says. "Having that background myself, I can see no other way to do family. I have always wanted to be a mom, as long as I can remember."

Narva Photo/Janet Narron

'Park is a person to me...' For 29 years Judie Greer makes her job her passion

By: Al-Lavee Miller

After nearly 29 years at Park University, Judie Greer, assistant to the vice president for student services, knows that Park University is more than just a place where she works.

"I felt like Park was entrusted to me," says Greer. "I never lost that feeling."

What kept Greer at one job for nearly 29 years?

"It's the people...I don't know of any other place I'd rather work," she said.

Greer said the people make up Park University, and she has a close connection with them. She said she felt joy when the mortgage was paid off. Nearly 29 years have passed, Greer has experienced a lot at Park. Changes led her to work under four different presidents.

Good and bad comes with change, but Greer sees it as being, "Not bad...The way I think about Park is that it's like a body. The body is going to change. I might gain a few pounds. I may get a little ill. I may get well, but the heart stays the same, the soul stays the same."

Her long stay began in 1976. Greer arrived at Park in search of a job. After being hired as the secretary to the director of development, she thought she wouldn't belong in her new world of Ph.D.'s. During the first years of her long career, she was taught to get to know people. That consisted of writing letters to alumni and really interacting with students. When it came to students, Greer would say, "My job was to ask, hey, what's wrong?" One of those students was Shellie Nelson, who graduated in 1986. Although many years have passed, Greer still has a bond with Nelson.

Nelson now works at NBC Action News as an assignment desk editor. She coordinates when and what stories reporters and photographers will cover. Nelson says, "Judie is so humble. She is a friend in the truest sense of the word.

"I could always go to her for advice. She always helped me find the answer to any personal or school problem. She taught me that all answers are not in the manuals or handouts."

Greer's lessons extended past the walls of Park for Nelson.

"She was a good example for me. I use her attitude now," Nelson said. "She helped contribute to my success.

"Judie is my mom away from home."

Greer said hearing mom isn't unusual to her.

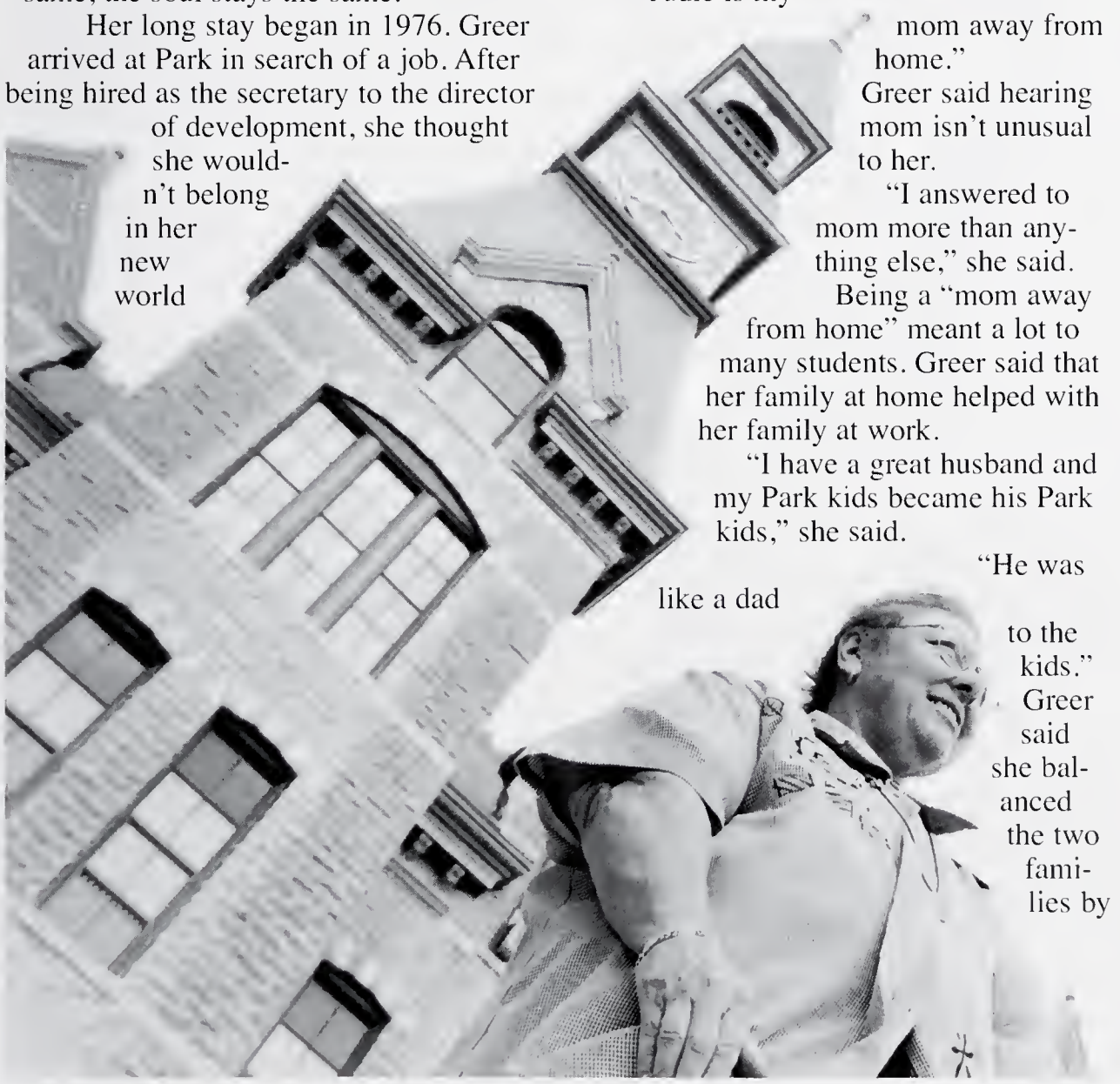
"I answered to mom more than anything else," she said.

Being a "mom away from home" meant a lot to many students. Greer said that her family at home helped with her family at work.

"I have a great husband and my Park kids became his Park kids," she said.

"He was like a dad to the kids."

Greer said she balanced the two families by blending them, making one big family.



One of Greer's best talents is listening.

"I've heard joys and sadness that I never ever thought I'd hear," she said. "I think the best thing I did was to listen and they told me what they needed." Her listening skill and the ability to really get to know the students led to her receiving the "Mom of the Year" award in 1983, and about fifteen years later she received the "Family Member" award.

"The world is different now than it was in 1976 and 1986," she said. "But students still need the same thing."

Some call Greer at "Jack of all trades." Greer replied, "I am so easily bored, whenever there is something new I want to learn it."

The desire to learn it all allowed Greer the opportunity to hold different job titles.

"I've had so many different jobs I think I can do anything," she said.

When she became the Assistant Director of PR, it allowed her to meet the most students.

"I wanted people to see in me that there was somebody here that cares about their kids." She had an open door policy with students. Over time Greer has not been able to see as many students as she likes. An old boss of hers always made a joke by saying, "If you want to find a student, open her door."

Inside her office was a student that needed to talk. Not just to talk about serious issues, but to talk about anything. One thing that Greer told students is that each has "responsibilities of living up to what you say you are going to do." She said did not give the answer to the students, but helped them find their own answers.

Answers come with 29 years of experience. How long will her door be open and the advice flowing?

"As long as I enjoy it, and basically as long as I am useful," she said. "About the time I think I'm tired of Park, something new happens. A new student comes in and says 'Hey, I'd like to hear your stories.'

"I'm not a hero. A hero does things he doesn't want to do. I do things that I want to do. I'm not a hero."

For the cheer of the game: Park spirit

By: Alisha Strosnider and Nick Dupont

It's seven o'clock on a Tuesday night at the Sports Center. The two domes echo with hip hop music and basketball. Alumni, faculty, students, and fans file in the west dome looking for open seats as the two teams warm up.

For the 10 women on the sideline, this is what it's all about. The Park University cheerleading team is vamped up and ready to lead the crowd and support the team against local rival Avila University. Coming into the game with a losing record, the Park men's basketball team and their fans are looking forward to a much needed win.

"Here we go 1-0—here we go," Karie Schaefer, 2005 Park University cheerleader, yells to encourage Chris Gaston, junior guard. "Here we go—let's go Pirates."

The game begins and Park University scores, two, then four, then six more points, and takes the lead over the Eagles. A time out is called and the Pirates return on defense.

"De-fense—De-fense" the women cry aloud, jumping up and down clapping their hands. The bleachers shake and boom as a few loyal fans follow the leaders.

The players on the bench begin to join in, glancing to the sideline, making sure they are in sync.

Cheerleading captain of the 2005 squad, Crystal Cotton, steps forward and begins a cheer. "Go-go—let's do it," and the women follow in unison.

Chuck Reed, senior guard, goes for a lay up and makes it. Park gains a strong lead over Avila, and the sideline abounds with kicks, jumps and pompons.

Ninety minutes later, the buzzer sounds and the game ends. The Park Pirates have smiles on their faces; in fact, everyone does. The scoreboard reads 60-48.

As the men walk to their locker room, the women move from the sideline onto the court and continue to over-joyously cheer congratulations for a well-played game and deserved win.

"I love to cheer," says Schaefer, grinning from ear to ear. "I've been cheering since seventh grade. It's always been a dream of mine to cheer in college, big or small, it didn't matter."

Schaefer has been a Park cheerleader for three years.

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BUT SCHAEFER'S BIG DREAMS weren't everything she thought they would be in spring of 2005. The women who cheered this Pirate victory had no coach, a problem the university fixed for the fall 2005 season. "It takes dedication since we don't have a coach," she said shrugging her shoulders and looking away.

"We're not you're typical cheerleaders. We make grades—we practice—but we do it on our own." She lifts her chin and shoulders back. "We take pride in all we do whether we're appreciated or not."

"It's harder to be proud of what we do than any other sports," said Rameisha Dean, also one of the spring 2005 group. "All we have is what we make out of it."

Nevertheless, Dean said, they stay enthusiastic and maintain pride in all activities.

"I cheer so I can inspire players, help our school and overall athletic club," Katie Hrenchir, Park University cheerleader, said, nodding her head. "It's something I like to do, and I love the girls."

'You have to love to cheer to do it at Park...'
—Rameisha Dean, Park Cheerleader

Hrenchir cheered at Park for three years without a coach.

Pat Fayard, athletic department office manager, has sponsored the team for 18 years. "I think I do it because I had three sons," she laughed. "I always wanted girls and this is just what I do. It makes me happy."

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THE 10 UNCOACHED Park women quickly stand, stack their hands, dip and say "holla atcha boy, golden stars, kiss it like this," as they kiss their fingers, smack their bottoms, and break for the day.

"I don't think people know how much it takes without a coach and without money," says Hrenchir. "We do everything because we want to, not because someone tells us to."

It's another Wednesday night in the spring of 2005 and the second to last men's home basketball game of the year. The 10 women, again, stand pressed against the wall on the sideline.

"Lets' go Pirates—Here we go."

"You can do it."

"De-fense Pirates—De-fense."

Schaefer jumps and shakes her 'old poms' in the air.

"It's another game, another chance to do something I enjoy and love... Come on boys, you got this," says Schaefer, still cheering and unable to take her eyes of the court. "I'm here to cheer on my team and hope they win."

And so are nine other Park University cheerleaders.

Cotton steps forward, once again, and begins a cheer. "Go-go—Let's do it" The women yell in loud unison.

Park scores and the sideline abounds with kicks, jumps and pompons. Looking down from the bleacher, you can only see smiles and hear words of hope.

"You have to love to cheer to do it at Park," says Dean.

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FAST FORWARD to fall. The NFL season is going full bore. On the field, on the television, NFL quarterbacks make their millions by throwing a 15-ounce rubber ball to a target measuring approximately one square foot around the hands of the receiver. But what if the ball weighed 130 pounds? What if the target area was no more than a square inch or two? And what kind of precision would it take to make such a throw when the risk of severe injury is ever present? Some might call this talent of throwing and catching "superhuman," reserved only for those athletes with dare-devil-like courage and the

squad stands ready to fight, fight, fight

technical agility to back it up.

These extraordinary athletes exist right here at Park, and this year they have a coach to cheer them on. They stalk the sidelines at almost every sporting event. They support those on the field while inspiring those in the bleachers. They put their bodies on the line hoping to make a difference in the game. They are the tenth player on the diamond and the sixth player on the court. They are the Park University Spirit Squad.

Coach John Harms was hired in August to lead the squad. His aims were ambitious.

"We want to raise our goals here," Harms said. "We're trying to look at going to regional competitions. It all depends on the effort the squad puts out. We want to hit bigger pyramids and do flashier things. Right now we're getting ready for that by sharpening our fundamentals. We need to add five males onto that if we want to get it done."

Getting it done requires more than just a smile and the ability to clap your hands together.

"It takes a lot of patience," he said. "It's physically challenging. You have to be in shape and you've got to be willing to take the pain."

Like any sport, pain is something yell leaders deal with at every game.

"I can't tell you how many times I've snapped fingers and rolled ankles," he said. "Statistically speaking, they say that 25 percent of all ambulance calls to college sporting events are because of cheerleaders and yell leaders getting hurt. It's a dangerous sport.

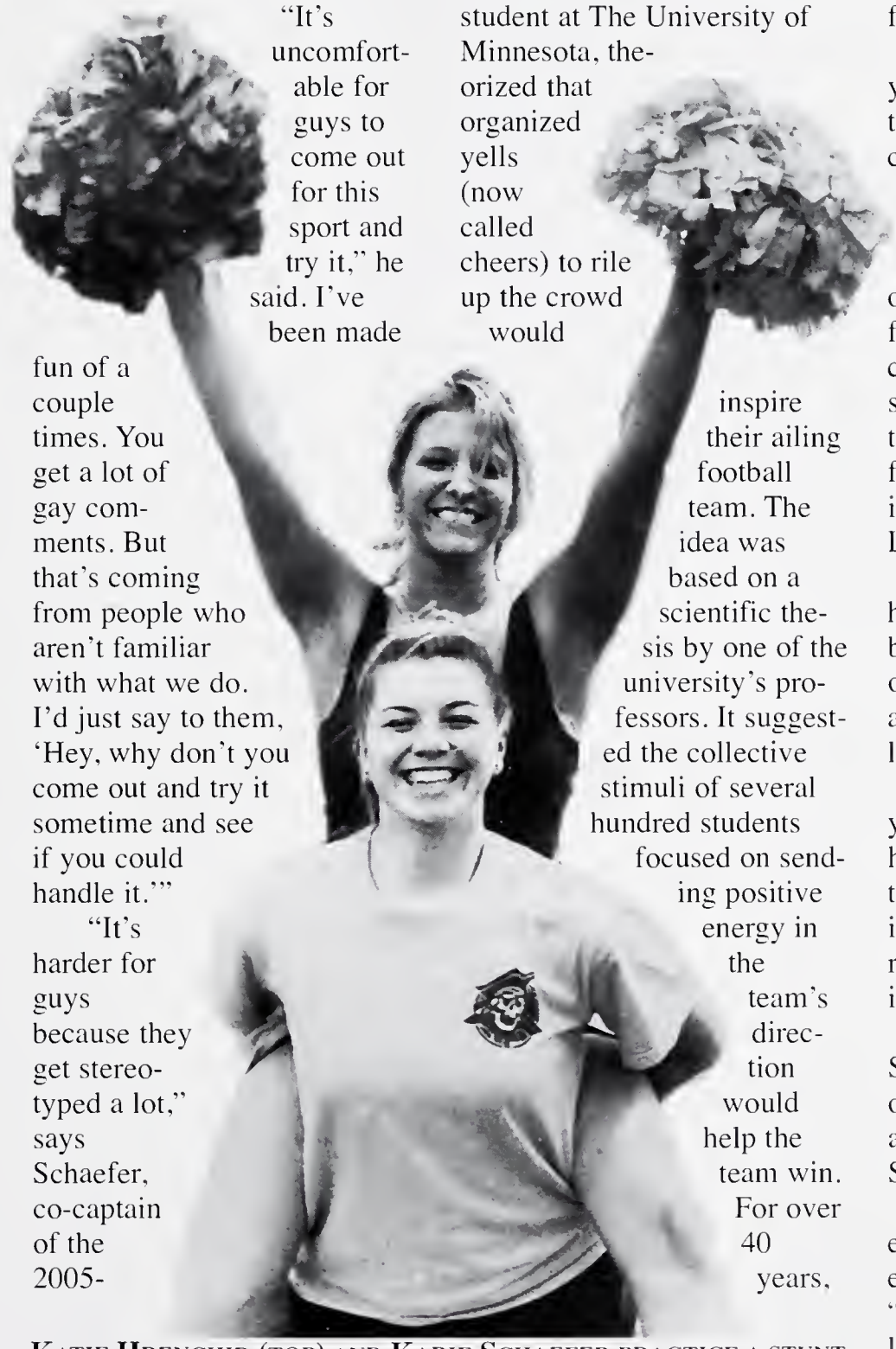
"If you're throwing a girl up and leave your hand out there a little too much, she'll come down and whip them the wrong way and maybe break them. On my last squad, we had a guy come away from an event with a broken neck and cracked vertebrates. You have to be more safety-conscious than other sports when you do this stuff."

As with any sporting activity combining male and female athletes, the men are likely to be picked on for being part of a sport that isn't "manly enough."

"It's uncomfortable for guys to come out for this sport and try it," he said. I've been made fun of a couple times. You get a lot of gay comments. But that's coming from people who aren't familiar with what we do. I'd just say to them, 'Hey, why don't you come out and try it sometime and see if you could handle it.'"

"It's harder for guys because they get stereotyped a lot," says Schaefer, co-captain of the 2005-2006 squads. "Some people have asked me about the coach and give me a look, and I'm like, 'No, stupid, he's married and has a baby on the way!' People are so ignorant sometimes. I wish more guys would get that out of their heads and come watch a practice. The real men will step forward and join us."

It was a real man in1898 who created what is known today as cheerleading. Jack Campbell, a first-year medical student at The University of Minnesota, theorized that organized yells (now called cheers) to rile up the crowd would inspire their ailing football team. The idea was based on a scientific thesis by one of the university's professors. It suggested the collective stimuli of several hundred students focused on sending positive energy in the team's direction would help the team win. For over 40 years, men dominated the sport across the country. The men took pride in giving their teams a psychological edge while throwing a heckle or two to the other team.



KATIE HRENCHIR (TOP) AND KARIE SCHAEFER PRACTICE A STUNT AT A CHEERLEADING PRACTICE.

NARVA PHOTO/ TARA BRIGGS

The evolution of cheerleading to a sport, again led by The University of Minnesota, started in the 1920s with the inclusion of gymnastics and tumbling routines. This helped cheerleaders become known for their athletic ability and made games more entertaining for the crowd.

In 1939, thousands of young men joined the military to serve in WWII. As was common with many male dominated sports during the war, women were called to replace them. Ninety percent of cheerleaders were women from that point on, but men continued to participate in the sport, making other contributions such as inventing the famous pom-pon, introduced in the 1950s by man named Lawrence Herkimer.

Harms said one Park man has already shown interest in being on the team, and hopes other men who aren't afraid of a physical challenge will follow suit.

"Contact me and I'll have you come to a few practices," he said. "If you're coming on time and you're committed, it's a lot of fun, physically rewarding, and very challenging."

Adding men will help the Spirit Squad secure a championship, he said, and get the attention of people outside the Sports Center.

"A lot of people don't even know we have cheerleaders on campus," said Schaefer. "To compete at the college level will help us get the recognition we need."

Park's history told though the eyes of

By: Nick Dupont

The attentive faces of a couple in their 20s and their 10-month old boy peer back at Carolyn Elwess through over 90 years of history. As Park University's archivist, she has seen literally hundreds of these pictures before—ghost-like faces—which until she found them had been staring through photographic windows into the blackness of a cardboard box.

It turns out the photo Elwess studies with her crystal blue eyes has one of the most remarkable and now famous stories to ever come out of Parkville.

And she brought it back to life after time had forgotten it.

Elwess's love and devotion to Park University's past allowed her to find a story of two Park alumni and their baby who sailed Titanic and survived when it sank. The story she wrote about the Caldwells drew major attention from the local media after the 1997 movie premiered. It was also featured in the Kansas City Museum's exhibit of the famous sinking, and became internationally known when it was published in the Titanic International Society journal. A shortened version of the story was published in a 2001 edition of Park's *Alumniad* magazine.

Albert and Sylvia Caldwell spent three years doing missionary work in Siam (Thailand) after they graduated from Park in 1909. They and their son Alden were able to secure passage back to the United States on Titanic's lone voyage. Alden may have saved his father's life the night the ship sank.

"...that evening about 11:30, Sylvia was awakened by the jolt of the collision. She made Albert go up to see what had happened but he returned with nothing to report. A few minutes later, a crew member told them to dress, put on lifejackets, and get up on deck. They wrapped Alden in a blanket and did as ordered. They left their good clothes and valuables behind because Alden had been playing with their ring of keys and they couldn't be found in time to unlock their trunk. At one point the Caldwells were among a group of people directed to a lower deck and forgotten. Eventually found, they were ushered back to the deck just as the last lifeboats were being filled..."

Luckily for Albert, he was allowed to get on board a lifeboat with Sylvia after "seeing no other ladies," in sight. No one could fault this man whose arms cradled his young son. The Caldwells felt death's grip tighten up once more as their lifeboat appeared to be headed straight down into the ship's exhaust. Fortunately, they avoided the huge surge of water, and were able to get to the water's surface without tragedy striking. As they rowed across the icy waters, the shrieking screams of 1500 people who had no lifeboat to board echoed through the frozen air. For several hours their boat sat idle in the dead waters until the Carpathia arrived to take them in, and take them home.

"It took very strong people to build this school and to keep it going for the past 130 years," Elwess says. "If we don't appreciate people and things that went before us, we're losing out on part of the importance of our Park experience, whoever we may be."

The story was well known for years, but time eventually lost interest in Park's Titanic survivors, sending the details of the account sinking to the bottom of the Fishburn archives.

Several stories have been discovered or rediscovered over the last ten years since Elwess began working in Park's archives, making her a modern day Indiana Jones—searching for the next treasure buried within the underground caves.

When Elwess first came to Park in 1967, the atmosphere on campus gave those who attended a true sense of family among their classmates.

"You've got to understand something about us older alums," Elwess said. "For most of us, Park is in our blood. It never ceases to be a part of us because of the life experience we had here. When I was in school we all lived on campus. Coming back to a place where everyone, nearly 700 students lived for four years is nostalgic. We were close together because we had to be. We made life-long friends here. For myself, I wish more students today could have the kind of experience I had. Maybe that's why some people don't have that same kind of college experience today."

During her first years at Park, she became a member of the "Goon Squad," a group of selected students chosen by administration for the purposes of initiating the freshmen. The Squad dressed up comparable to the zombies in "Night of the Living Dead," oftentimes wearing grotesque paper-mache masks and black makeup on their teeth. Some of the men wore three foot high Lincoln top hats and tore up their pants. Each carried with him a wooden paddle, which was for nothing more than laughs.

"The Goons would go around to the freshmen and jokingly humiliate them if they didn't know the words to a certain song or the answer to a school question," said Julie McCollum, Director of Alumni Relations. "They would make some of them run up and down the stairs in front of everyone with these humiliating signs around their necks and maybe some silly outfit or something. It was all in good fun though, even to the freshmen."

Elwess said it was fun and helped bring the classmates closer together, although it was controversial.

It was the memories, stories, and photographs taken at the time that would put her in the annals of Park's history forever. Little did she know she would be the one preserving those memories in the future.

one of her own, Carolyn Elwess, '71

Elwess moved away from the area sometime after her graduation in 1971, eventually living in New Jersey. In 1987, Elwess returned to Parkville and took a job at then Park College in the Alumni Relations office two years later, where she became increasingly closer to Park University and Parkville's history. From there she switched positions to work in the library, and finally was dubbed the university's archivist two years ago.

The archivist position might not exist had it not been for those in the past who fought to preserve the school's history of tough-minded individuality.

"It took very strong people to build this school and to keep it going for the past 130 years," she said. "If we don't appreciate people and things that went before us, we're losing out on part of the importance of our Park experience, whoever we may be."

Park's experience started when George S. Park and Dr. John A. McAfee started the school in 1875. A list of the schools' first 17 students existed, but without faces to go with the names—Until Elwess made a remarkable discovery that cracked the 130 year old mystery.

"We have this collage of portraits from 1874 that had all these faces on it but nobody knew who they were," she said. "I was rummaging through a bunch of stuff that the McAfee family gave to us, and I found a list that looked kind of interesting. I thought 'Wait a minute,' because it listed names of two others that had been identified. So I counted them and I counted the heads in the collage and realized it was a list of who all those people were. To be able to identify and see the original students was really exciting for me. I made sure I labeled it (she smiles). That, I think was really cool." She said her work is not limited exclusively to Park's most famous alums.

"I do research and writing for people all over campus, from the president on down, from the physical plant, you name it," Elwess said. "I've done background on things like looking at the old plans of Mackay when they re-did the roof. I get straight history questions too like, 'Why are the school colors what they are?' 'Why are we named the Pirates?' 'What's the history of the alma mater?' 'What's the pipe organ's history?' 'What was the first college building here?' You name it."

She said she sometimes does research for people who contact the school about relatives of theirs that went to Park—sometimes as far back as 1877.

"As far as the 'musty, dusty, archives go," said Park Director of Library Systems and colleague Ann Schultis, "we preserve, protect but also provide. So we're preserving the university's history and protecting the material so it continues to exist for us and providing information to others who can use it."

ELWESS SPENDS HER TIME DIGGING THROUGH PARK'S HISTORY AND REMEMBERING HER DAYS AS A STUDENT.

NARVA PHOTO/ EMILY FARLEY

Elwess said the only thing annoying about the job is when someone wants information dug up, processed, and presented in a short time. She said this can be trying, since much of the archives and materials are not catalogued and take time to find. Her patience does not go unnoticed.

"I think her job is a little bit like an archaeologist," said associate vice president for communications and friend Rita Weighill. "She has to sift through all the stuff a little bit at a time to find the real treasure."

And the treasures found are never-ending.

"Once I think I've found everything," Elwess said, "I open another box and there's something else, or someone says to me, 'I found this and thought you might like to add this to the collection.

"If it hadn't been for people like the McAfee's and Miss Fishburn and Dr. Harold Smith, '44, we wouldn't have this vast collection," she said. "Marlowe Sherwood, '63, who was for years the alumni director and dear friend of mine, was responsible for a great deal of this collection."

Elwess's friends say they now admire her as she admired those before her.

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"We're standing on the shoulders of giants," said Schultis. "One of the giants we're standing on the shoulders of is Frances Fishbourne from the class of '21. We wouldn't have archives if she hadn't saved and preserved it. Now we're really fortunate that we have someone with Carolyn's ability, sense of humor, and flexibility to work with this collection and make it as accessible as it can be."

"I think Carolyn is one of the most devoted fans of Park University I have ever met," said Weighill. "She loves this institution and she is dedicated to making sure our history is accurate and reflective of what this place has gone through to become what it is today. Sometimes I think a lot of people are envious of the excitement of what she does. She gets to touch the history of Park in ways many of us never get to."

Elwess said she would like to stay as long as Park will keep her, but would also like to have a hand in training the next person to touch Park's history in the ways she has.

"I want to show them around so they can get to know the lay of the land and where things are," she said. "I would tell them to be sure that nothing happens to these artifacts like their being sold or distributed around campus for people to hang on their walls. Things disappear that way. I'd tell them to read the old yearbooks and the Stylus so they can get a feel for the place."

A feel for the place is exactly what she has.

"I think people around here know how much I love and care for this school," she said. "I think loyalty is an important quality. I feel very loyal to Park. I would hope that would be something for which I'm remembered." Thousands of people have walked the Park campus for nearly a century and a half, some just passing through and others who never leave. Even after they've died.

ARCHIVIST CAROLYN ELWESS STANDS PROUDLY OUTSIDE THE PARK UNIVERSITY ALUMNI HOUSE. ELWESS RESEARCHES THE UNIVERSITY'S PAST, PART OF WHICH INCLUDES HER TIME AS A STUDENT AT PARK.
NARVA PHOTO/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

'You've got to understand something about us older alums...For most of us, Park is in our blood. It never ceases to be a part of us because of the life experience we had here...'

— Carolyn Elwess, class of 1971

"I strongly felt the old observatory was haunted," she said. "I was up there cleaning up one Saturday by myself and I had the creepiest feeling that there was somebody right behind me. I looked around and saw nothing but I didn't waste time getting out of there. It was such an eerie feeling.

"I believe there are spirits here," she said. "I believe that because it took so many strong people to create the school and keep it going that I wouldn't be surprised if some of them came back here to see how things worked out."

Elwess has kept a tradition going of keeping Park's past protected. Perhaps she will never leave the campus after her time has come and gone.

"Will I haunt the place?" she laughs. "Who knows, I don't know. Whatever I can do while I'm on earth is to preserve our history and get people interested in it—that's what is so rewarding. I'll do whatever I can."

LEFT: CAROLYN ELWESS PEERS THROUGH THE FISHBURN ARCHIVES IN THE MABEE LEARNING CENTER.
NARVA PHOTO/ EMILY FARLEY

Junior Hrenchir learns patience, life lessons from younger brother

By: Amy Smith

She opens her arms in greeting and exudes a genuine warmth and compassion. Her long blonde hair, flawless complexion, illuminating smile and gentle laugh are just what you'd expect from a popular college student. However, interior design major Katie Hrenchir lives with something unknown to many.

"People ask me if I wanted a brother who was normal, but I say, 'No,'" she says. "I wouldn't change anything because Tanner has made me who I am today."

Those are not answers you expect from a woman who has come face-to-face with the disease doctors told her parents would debilitate her brother's speech and mental development. Two words would change her family—Down Syndrome.

Wanda Hrenchir, Katie and Tanner's mother, remembers what it was like to hold Tanner for the first time.

"When he arrived, the doctors took him from me to run tests," she recalls. "I didn't get to see him for hours. Then the nurse brought him to me all wrapped up in blankets. They told me not to uncover him because he couldn't hold his body temperature. He was so small, only five pounds, one ounce."

After his birth the doctors talked with Wanda and Jerry Hrenchir, his father, about life with Down Syndrome.

"They told us Tanner wouldn't be able to interact with other kids or speak normally," Wanda said. "They told us not to expect much of anything from him. They also told me not to have anymore kids because they would have Down's too."

Fortunately, her parents did not take the advice doctors had given them. Going against the odds, they decided to have another child. When Katie was born in 1984, Tanner was two years old.

Despite the bleak outlook at Tanner's birth, he was doing things doctors never imagined.

"We had Tanner in intensive speech therapy twice a week by the time he was three," says Wanda.

Enrolling Tanner in therapy helped him tremendously, she maintains. There he learned simple sign language, which assisted his communication. His family and teachers were able to understand him and Tanner was able to function at a higher level.

Now that time has passed and Tanner's progression has exceeded expectations, their hard work has paid off despite many obstacles. The Hrenchir family lives in Wathena, Kans., a town where the local public school enrolls 300 students. Katie distinctly remembers one difficult incident.

"There was a group of bullies that rode the bus home with Tanner and me. They would always make fun of him," she remembers. "They would point out his different features and laugh. One day I started crying and when I got home I asked my mom, 'Why do they laugh at him?' I was surprised when she told me to get tough, she told me to be strong for Tanner."

Wanda and Larry have made it a priority to be honest with their family. Wanda says they never tried to hide the fact that Tanner was different.

"We were never ashamed of our son's disability," she says. "I didn't want Katie to pity her brother. I knew this was something she would have to deal with for the rest of her life, and the teasing would only get worse. She needed to understand the circumstances."

Katie says growing up with Tanner was sometimes a struggle.

"At first it was hard getting used to the comments people would make. Then, we would go to McDonald's and the cashier would talk really slowly and ask, 'What would you like to eat today?'" she says. "It is funny because Tanner is very high functioning for his age. You can tell the people who have been around kids with Down Syndrome and those that haven't."

Tanner attended kindergarten through fifth grade in public school. In the sixth grade, he and Katie were enrolled together.

"It was hard being at the same school as Tanner," says Katie. "At first they had us in the same grade, but they decided to

"Having Tanner in our family has taught me so much patience," she says. "He has made me more loving and compassionate. I care about other people's feelings a lot more because of him."

Narva Photo/Melissa Hershewe

move him up two grades, where he was supposed to be."

Tanner was able to get through classes with help from a paraprofessional who traveled to each class with him, assisting with his development.

In the eighth grade Tanner became involved with a bowling league through the Special Olympics of St. Joseph, Mo. The family agrees bowling gave him an outlet to interact with other kids like him. Through bowling, Tanner made friends and eventually won a state championship. When Katie was eight, she volunteered during the games, assisting players and setting up pins.

For several years Tanner has continued to play basketball, with Katie by his side. At each game Katie and her family are in the stands cheering him on.

"It's so fun to go watch his games," she says. "During the championships they announce all the teams and they get to stand on a podium, like a real game. And, his team is so serious and competitive. It's great to watch him play."

Throughout his high school years, Katie recalls, the school rallied behind him.

"When we got to high school Tanner was nominated for football homecoming," she says. "That was a big honor for him. When he walked across the stage at graduation, everyone in the whole gym stood up to congratulate him."

Katie learned firsthand about the disease and how to handle the emotional and physical difficulties associated with it. Tanner's disability spawned her lifelong devotion to community service and desire to educate others about Down Syndrome.

Each June, the family travels to Rocky Point, Mo., near the Lake of the Ozarks. There they spend a week at Camp Wonderland. The camp is sponsored by the National Guard and is committed to serving the mentally and physically challenged. Camp Wonderland hosts children with disabilities ages eight to 18. Campers can participate in archery, water sports and crafts.

Larry admits the first year Tanner was scheduled to attend the camp, he could not bear to see him go alone. He immediately became a volunteer so he could accompany Tanner.

Katie became actively involved when she was just 12 years old. Last year she was elected assistant director of fundraising, but hopes to one day hold the camp director position.

"I know I would like to be a camp director someday. Even though it is a ton of responsibility, it would be fun," she says.

Some college students dream of the fun they'll have in the summer hanging out at the beach or lugging backpacks across Europe.

"I always get really excited every summer to go to camp," Katie says. "Seeing the difference we make in the kids' faces is the best feeling, and I wouldn't miss it for the world. All of the volunteers provide activities for the campers. We put on dances for them, serve their meals and become their entertainment for the week."

Since Tanner is now an adult, he also volunteers at the camp. Last year he was honored as the adult volunteer of the summer, says Katie.

The family also participates in First Downs for Down Syndrome with the Kansas City Chiefs and an annual charity walk.

Having Tanner for a brother has opened up volunteer opportunities with Camp Wonderland and the Special Olympics for Hrenchir, who has a 4.0 GPA and is on a full academic scholarship.

Narva Photos/Melissa Hershewe

With a little help from his family, Tanner has gained at least one special privilege. Larry knew one of Tanner's favorite musical artists was scheduled to perform in St. Joseph. He wrote a letter to Terri Clark, the award-winning country music artist, asking if she would be willing to meet Tanner. When she came to town, Tanner and Larry were able to go backstage and meet her.

"Tanner is a huge fan of Terri's. He has all her CDs and knows all the words to her songs, so this was a huge deal for him," says Katie.

Today Tanner lives at home with Wanda and Larry.

"A lot of people ask when Tanner will move out," explains Katie. "There is an apartment complex in St. Joseph, Mo., for people like him. Tanner's name is on the waiting list, but he'll go when he is ready."

Meanwhile, Katie continues her volunteer work with Camp Wonderland and the Special Olympics. She maintains a 4.0 GPA, is a Park University cheerleader and holds a part-time job. Currently she has a full academic scholarship and is an interior design major.

Katie Hrenchir says she is happy with the way her family has turned out.

"Having Tanner in our family has taught me so much patience. Everything is at Tanner's pace; he has no concept of time, so I have to be especially patient with him," she says. "He has made me more loving and compassionate. I care about other people's feelings a lot more because of him."

Katie's plans include completing her interior design degree and starting a family of her own.

"My biggest dream is to adopt a child with Down Syndrome," she says.

Life's path takes junior Ashley Rich off the field and on with life

By: Trista Tomasek

She never thought this would be the last time she sat in the Park University dugout. As Ashley Renee Rich sits on the bench with her long, blonde hair blowing in the wind, she stares at the freshly dragged softball field. Her piercing blue eyes look through the metal fence and she smells the fresh dirt. "I will miss the pressure of making the last out or trying to get a big hit," said Rich.

Rich is the daughter of Cena and Greg Rich and the big sister to Taylor, Brittany and Madison. Rich is 21 years old and was born and raised in Kearney, Mo. She graduated from Kearney High School in 2002. While at Kearney, Rich competed in swimming and softball but had more passion for softball. "My dad actually started me in softball and I just enjoyed the sport from that point on," said Rich.

Rich has been playing competitive softball for 11 years. She was a member of numerous American Softball Association traveling teams in the Missouri area. Playing on these teams was just the beginning of a goal to play college ball. The dream came true when former Park University softball coach Julie True recruited her to Park University.

In the fall of 2002 Rich committed to Park. "I am a family person, my first year I wanted to stay close to home" Rich said. "Park was close and I was offered a softball scholarship. I also liked it because of the small class sizes and the friendly people," said Rich.

"I enjoy college ball more than high school softball," Rich said after her first year as a Lady Pirate. "In college you learn so much more about the game. You get to travel to many different places, and have better competition. There are always a variety of players as well. You form so many bonds with your teammates," said Rich.

During her third year at Park her outlook changed. She never thought she would have to quit softball and school in one semester. Rich's mom lost her job this winter causing a financial stress on her family. After sitting down with her parents and discussing the money situation, the conclusion was Rich had to start paying all of her bills.

"Going from only paying my cell phone bill to having to pay for everything was a big shock," said Rich.

The family decided Rich needed to work full-time at her job. In order for her to work full-time, she had to quit softball and school. "I cried and cried for days because I knew I would have to quit softball," said Rich.

Rich said she didn't do this just to help her parents out; she also did it for her younger sister Taylor. Taylor is a freshman at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, KS and is playing softball.

"I have two years of college softball under my belt and this her first year to play," Rich said. "I did not want to be selfish. Taylor is a great ball player and deserves the opportunity to shine."

The next step was for Rich to tell her team the news. She had given her coach, Monica Wade, a heads up about the situation. Wade tried to help Rich out but it just wasn't enough.

"Ashley was an important member of our team and she is missed," Wade said. "As far as her decision goes, I really hope she is content with her decision. It must have been hard for her but as long as she continues to move forward in life then I wish her well."

Wade also said Rich was a "versatile player."

In the 2004 season, Rich was playing left field but the team needed a second basemen. "After many years playing outfield she was asked to play infield and she jumped in and did her best," said Wade.

"Our team is different without her. Sometimes I walk into practice and think I see her but then remember that she's not really there. The team has adjusted since her leaving but she is missed greatly. I

"I ENJOY COLLEGE BALL MORE THAN HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL," RICH SAID AFTER HER FIRST YEAR AS A PIRATE. "IN COLLEGE YOU LEARN SO MUCH MORE ABOUT THE GAME."

NARVA PHOTO/ NIKI MYERS

"Just being there for them when they need someone or having all the funny moments on bus trips and in practice is what I'll miss," Rich said. "Most of all I will miss just having them there to talk to."

Narva Photo/ Niki Myers

think her selfless decision is shaping her in a positive way for adulthood. She is definitely what one would call a 'team player.'"

Rich said the hardest part of this situation was telling her teammates she had to quit.

Sophomore center fielder Katie Immele said, "Sometimes people have to do what they have to do. I think there were other options for Ashley to take and maybe she took the way she thought would work best for her.

"I will miss Ashley's voice the most. I always knew when she shouted my name from far away. Just little funny things that happened on the road are things I will miss. Just having her around to brighten my day with her big smile and her essence of pink happiness is something I will greatly miss."

Holly Gentry is a junior pitcher for the Pirates as well as one of Rich's roommates.

"I think that Ashley needed to do this in order to get back on track. I totally respect her decision and I don't think that this was something that she wanted to do," said Gentry.

"Ashley was a very good athlete. She has a very competitive attitude and she played the sport with heart. Our team will definitely miss that about Ashley.

"I will miss just playing together and spending time together on road trips. There is just something about the bond that grows between teammates especially when you are together all the time. I will definitely miss that bond."

"I think it is a sad thing to see a good teammate and friend quit something she loves so much," said Whitney Macdonald, a junior, first baseman and newcomer to the team. "Ashley is a great person and she had to do this. She simply can't do it all and she chose what was more important to her and you can't be made at her for that.

"Replacing her is not going to be easy, it's not just her talent on the field it is her upbeat and friendly outlook on life. I will miss her hustle and her willingness to put her 'ass on the line.'"

"Ashley brought a lot to the team, said Rachael Stoops a senior, right fielder. "She had a good attitude and she was hard working. I was looking forward to her joining us in the outfield again.

"I understand in life you have to make decisions that may not seem right, but end up being the best thing for your situation. Ashley is a good friend and I stood by her decision and totally support her."

Rich said it was more than just quitting the sport she loved. The decision she made changed her whole life.

"This has totally changed my life. It makes you grow up really fast," said Rich. "I know that this sort of situation happens to so many people, but you never think that it will happen to you and your family. Life sends you down so many paths, but eventually you will come onto the right one. I think that this will make me stronger and bring my family and me closer. I have learned a lot.

Rich said the one thing she will miss the most is "the girls."

"Just being there for them when they need someone or having all the funny moments on bus trips and in practice is what I'll miss," she said. "Most of all I will miss just having them there to talk to.

"I love my teammates. Softball is a game that involves more than one person. It is a TEAM effort. There are so many friendships that are made. Sometimes you don't realize how important a teammate is until they are gone."

Baseball player swings into life, leaving summer fun in the dugout

By: Kevin Scobee

The 6-foot-1 inch, 180-pound right handed hitting outfielder, stands in to take his turn at batting practice. His long, slender build, the kind of build pro scouts look for in their outfielders, crouches over the plate with a slight bend at the knees. His hands, wrapped by black Mizuno gloves, hold the bat at a slight angle, just inches away from his head.

"Short and quick, Moe. Short and quick," Park University head baseball coach Cary Lundy says to his junior unofficial team captain.

Junior Mohammad Mohammed, #21 takes a swing at baseball practice last spring.

Narva Photo/ Nick Dupont

The pitch comes in and he jams himself, swinging with his hands too close to his body, flaring the ball to the opposite field. The next pitch garners the same result and he takes a minute to collect his thoughts.

Mohammad Gheled Mohammed, Moe for short, was born in Kansas City, Mo., to Muslim parents. Stop and catch your breath.

Both parents are from Jerusalem—Palestine to be more specific—but he was raised in the Northland of Kansas City. He went to North Kansas City High School where he played sports, went to school, and made friends just like normal kids do. Then came Sept. 11, 2001.

"First I tell you this," Mohammed says. "Before 9-11, I never saw a problem. After that, that's when all the stereotypes happened. "After that happened, when I went out to places people looked at me like I had something to do with it."

The threat of terrorism took its toll on the psyche of America. Unfortunately for Muslim-Americans, the toll was taken out on them.

"After 9-11 your whole life changes," Mohammed says. "When I fly, they check all my passports. It sucks sometimes."

"I'm sure he gets sideways looks from people when they pass him by," says high school, and now Park University, teammate Vince Sola. "But the people that do that sort of thing don't know Moe. They're just ignorant and think all Muslims are the same. But Moe's one of the greatest people I've ever known."

"As of right now, its okay," says Mohammed. "At the airport they're just doing their job, they're protecting myself and my family. As for people on the street? I can't do anything about that. People are going to think what they think."

Moe parks his newly purchased black Chevrolet Equinox in front of the baseball office on the Park University Parkville campus. It's 1 p.m. so all the other guys on the team are getting ready to head up to the baseball field for practice. Moe can't go.

"What's up dawg?" Moe says for his official greeting to everyone.
All the guys know when Moe's around. It's the same three-word greeting for everyone. And it's always followed by a smile and a hug.

He stops to talk with his teammates for a few minutes. His family away from family. A chance for smiles during his day of stress and exhaustion.

"We're intra-squading today Moe, you gonna be there?" a teammate asks.

Moe knows intra-squad games are a player's best chance at getting something done on the baseball field, and their best chance at getting better. Sadly, he knows he can't go.

"I'm a double major in biology and education," Moe says. "I'm taking two labs a semester, and working, and playing baseball. So, there are times I can't go to practice. And I don't miss class. So days like intra-squad days, or days when we put in plays defensively, I can't be there, and it hurts. But, I'm here to go to school."

"I know he hates missing practice," says Coach Lundy. "But, I think he's a grounded individual that knows what his future holds and knows he needs to be a good student to be a good teacher. And that's what he really wants to do."

So with carrying a double major, playing baseball, and working a job, all at the same time, wouldn't that be grounds for giving up?

"I think we all get to that point." Mohammed says. "Just that one day you get tired of all the road trips and tests, but you got to give 110 percent, on and off the field. It's a business trip. You're in your hotel room, get your other business done. Other people might want to give up, but school's great. I'm very thankful for the scholarship and playing baseball.

Everyday I think God. That's how I look at it."

For three summers Mohammed's parents and siblings go home to Jerusalem. He is left behind.

He's left mainly for safety concerns. Because his parents are older and United States citizens they can visit Palestine without much concern for their well being - at least no more so than anywhere else.

"The way they treat old people, they just go home and visit," Mohammed says. "They are American citizens, so they're fine. But there are different types of Muslim groups. And since I'm a young male, they think I'm there to blow something up.

"It's sad that I can't go home and see my family."

While he's in Kansas City his responsibilities lie with the house. The payments of the house. He works two full-time jobs. One is Wal-Mart, the same job he holds during the school year, and one at Heartland Chevrolet.

If a student in the same circumstances were to give up and cash in their chips, no one would blame them.

"But it's never like that because it's not all on me," says Mohammed. "My parents help me out. If I need money I can get some out of my parents' account. But if I can pay it, then I pay it.

"They're gone a maximum of 45 days. My dad just retired, so my parents are getting ready to go home soon. I'm the only boy, and I'm spoiled. So they're there for me. If I needed help with my car payment they'd be there for me. My dad built me a house in Jerusalem for when I go home some day. I don't have a lot to complain about.

"Bill-wise, I was going to have to do it soon anyway, so I might as well learn. I would like to go back home, but my parents have been working for a long time to get to go back. It's more meaningful for them than it would be for me to go. I can wait."

However with all the responsibility on his shoulders while his parents are away, Mohammed had to give something up.

As an athlete the only thing you can do to get better at your particular sport, is to play it, as much as you can. That's why summer baseball to college students is so important. It's a time in their lives when their abilities are starting to peak, and they need to play whenever there's an opportunity. Mohammed was forced to give it up.

Ask Coach Lundy how good he thinks Mohammed could be if he got the chance to play more baseball, and without hesitation, he would answer "real good." But because Mohammed has a love for his family that is unbreakable, a major joy in his life is forced out of the priority column, and into the "what could be" column.

"Yeah that's one of the toughest things I had to give up," Mohammed says. "My sophomore year in high school is when I had to start working. It was time to take care of my family, and stuff happens with your family, and I had to lose something and baseball was it. I'd love to play summer baseball but I don't know how I could do it. I put family first before anything. I got bills to pay.

"Losing baseball for the summer is huge for me. I wish I could play, but can't. Some things are hard but you got to do it. I think I could be really good. When I put my mind to it, between the lines, I'm a different person with baseball. Every day we learn something new. And by playing summer baseball I think I could be great, to be honest with you."

"Start with your hands back a little bit and focus on going straight to the ball," Lundy tells him.

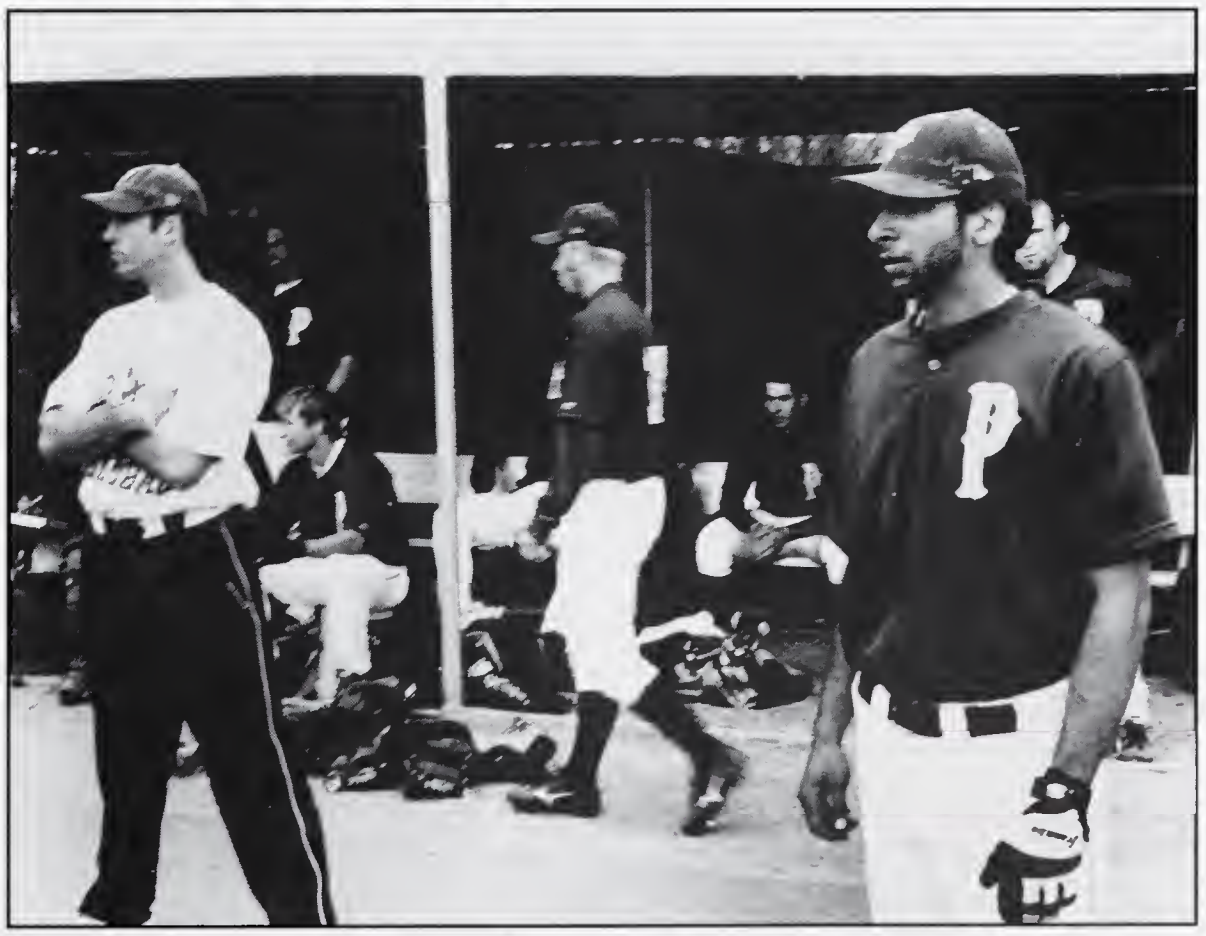
Whack! A line drive over second base. Ping! Another offering sent back up the middle.

Lundy stands with a smile on his face. "We're working on getting his hands back," Lundy says. "He's jamming himself while at the same time double-loading. He's getting to the hitting position once, then, when the pitch comes, he moves his hands back again to get ready to hit. And there's no need for the second movement."

Another four swings bring with them the same result: line drive after line drive.

His turn is over so he steps out and circles around the batting cage. As he walks by, he and Lundy share a glance, and a smile.

"He's got just as much talent, if not more, than any player on this team," Lundy turns and says. "It's just the matter of getting him to realize that."



"Losing baseball for the summer is huge for me. I wish I could play, but can't. Some things are hard, but you got to do it," says Mohammed.
Narva Photos/ Nick Dupont and Kelley Walker-Chance

2004-2005 Men's Soccer Roster			
#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
0	Khalid Ali	Fr.	GK
00	Derek Talcott	Jr.	GK
1	Ricardo Avalos	Sr.	GK
3	Ross Stride	Jr.	F
4	Andrew Merrill	Jr.	D
5	Felix Makachia	Jr.	D
6	Enock Odede	Sr.	MF
7	Fethalew Ayalew	Fr.	MF
8	Tatek Teferi	Fr.	MF
9	Shawn Porter	Fr.	D
10	Admir Dzilic	Fr.	F
12	Saidi Isaac	Fr.	F
13	Oleseh Chuks	Jr.	D
14	Justin Boersma	Sr.	D
15	David Waithaka	So.	MF
16	Mekete Gashaw	Sr.	MF
17	Henok Belayneh	Jr.	F
18	Paul McLaughlin	So.	F
20	Simon Mulama	Jr.	MF
23	Chris Lisaka	Sr.	MF
24	Selvir Abidovic	Fr.	F

Head Coach: Efrem Shimlis
Assistant Coach: Timothy Kibune

JUNIOR ANDREW MERRILL KEEPS HIS EYES ON THE OPPOSING AVILA UNIVERSITY PLAYER. THE PIRATES WON THE GAME 5-1.
NARVA PHOTO/EMILY FARLEY

Men's soccer coach leads team to a 20-win season, long list of honors

Six First Team All-Conference selections. Three Second Team All-Conference selections. The conference offensive Player of the Year and the conference Coach of the Year. Four named to the All-Region team. The Region Player of the Year and the Region Coach of the Year. A Second Team All-American, an Honorable Mention All-American, and an Academic All-American. That's quite an impressive list of awards handed out to the 2004 Park University Men's Soccer team.

For just the second time in school history, fourth year head coach Efrem Shimlis, led his men to a 20 win season.

After capturing both the conference regular season title, the conference tournament title, and Region IV title, the Pirates advanced to the second round of the national tournament only to get beat by Auburn Montgomery, the nation's eventual runner-up.

"Going to nationals is a big thing," says Shimlis. "Only 20 out of some 200 schools qualify. We're happy (we made it that far), but we felt like we had a chance to go further. (Auburn Montgomery) was just better than us that day."

Looking ahead to the 2005 season coach Shimlis had the loss of six starters staring back at him.

"We have a lot of work to do," says Shimlis. "We've been ranked in the top 25 each week for the last three years, so, of course, recruiting has gone well. But with the loss of the starters, there will be a different team out there."

Second Team All-American and team captain Simon Mulama will return next season, as well as freshman sensation Saidi Isaac, who turned in one of the best offensive seasons in school history, scoring 36 goals en route to conference and region Player of the Year honors.

But among those lost are senior defender Justin Boersma and senior midfielder Chris Lisaka.

Boersma and Lisaka both were Honorable Mention All-Americans as well as All-Region and All-Conference selections. Boersma was also a two-time Academic All-American.

Although Shimlis realizes what the inevitable loss of seniors will mean to his roster in the 2005 season, seeing his players graduate with honors such as those earned by Boersma and Lisaka after a successful season, make the hard work ahead worth it.

"That's what makes me most happy and so very proud of all of my players," says Shimlis. "They do accomplish a lot on the field, but the effort and work they all put in to the classroom is terrific. As a team we average a 3.1 GPA.

"The greatest reward for me is to see them all graduate. I am so proud of how hard they work at being great students and the character of men they all are."

Women's soccer takes 13-7 record to first round of nationals

With a record of 13-7, the Park women's soccer team made an appearance at the NAIA National Championship in 2004 after winning the NAIA Region IV Championship.

The Pirates were eliminated from the National Championship in the first round in a game against Bethel College. This loss would follow a 10-game winning streak that had carried Park through Regionals as they beat opponents such as Ottawa University and Dordt College.

For a team with only 5 returnees, the season began with a change of head coach. After a few scattered losses, the women started winning games by astounding amounts of points. They went 9-1 against Bellevue, 12-0 against York College, and 18-1 against Oklahoma Wesleyan.

Standout player Maria Ruiz, a freshman, scored a team high of 33 goals throughout the season. She also had 12 assists. Named MCAC Co-Offensive Player of the Year in 2004, Ruiz also made it onto the All-MCAC First Team. Scoring three goals or more in each of six games, she was a NAIA All-Region IV First Team honoree and earned NAIA Honorable Mention All-American honors.

Also honored as part of the All-MCAC First Team, Sophie Chapman was named to the NAIA All-Region IV Second-Team. Other players who were recognized as MCAC selections were Kesiann Francis and Julia Eshikumo. They made the second team.

The team's only senior, Haley Daniel, and two juniors, Kesiann Francis and Kate Johnson, were honored as Daktronics-NAIA All-America Scholar-Athletes.

NAIA All-Region IV Second Team picks included three Pirates. Kesiann Francis, who ranked third on the team with 10 goals, was joined for this honor by teammates Akeela Woods and Sophie Chapman.

2004-2005 Women's Soccer Roster

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
1	Jade Holcomb	Fr.	GK
3	Maria Roman	Fr.	D
4	Haley Daniel	Sr.	D
5	Laura Baeza	Fr.	MF
6	Sophie Chapman	Fr.	MF
7	Angie Gardner	Fr.	MF
8	Kristen Steiner	Fr.	D
9	Akeela Woods	Jr.	D
11	Virginia Hansen	Fr.	F
15	Kesiann Francis	Jr.	MF
17	Scovia Oraro	So.	D
20	Kate Johnson	Jr.	MF
21	Amber Pecheco	So.	D
22	Kat Hogan	Jr.	MF
23	Julia Eshikumo	So.	F

Head Coach: Wes Wade

KAT HOGAN, JUNIOR, HANDLES THE BALL ON THE WAY TO THE GOAL IN A GAME AGAINST BELLEVUE UNIVERSITY. THE PIRATES WON THE GAME.

NARVA PHOTO/KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

Women's volleyball records highest win total since '97

Recording their highest win total since 1997, the women's volleyball team finished the 2004 season with a 25-13 record.

The women began the season with a string of wins at the McPherson College Invitational. Led by six starters from the previous year, the Pirates also beat competitors such as Graceland University and William Jewell College.

Several of the team's losses occurred within the first month of the season. Team member Mallory Super says she was pleased with the team's overall performance even though things always didn't go smoothly.

"I'd say that the high point was our outcome in the rankings pool," says Super. "We really bonded as the season progressed, but there were some rocky points before that."

The Pirates' season was ended in the MCAC Tournament Semi-Finals on Nov. 12, 2004, with a loss to College of St. Mary.

As the season progressed, individual players set team highs in different areas. Sugglis Chinchilla, a senior, led the team with a high of 23 kills against Oklahoma Wesleyan. Named MCAC Player of the Week twice in 2004 and also Region IV Player of the Week once, Chinchilla averaged 4.13 kills per game. She also posted 3.63 digs per game. These stats helped earn a place on the NAIA All-Region IV Second Team.

Other standout performances included those of Jillian Creighton, Tenysha Brown, and Gabriela Carvalho. Creighton, along with Chinchilla, was named to the All-MCAC First Team and Brown was selected for the second team. Carvalho, a freshman who averaged 11.56 assists, was honored as the MCAC Freshman of the Year.

Chinchilla, Michelle Terry, and Terra Van Duine, all seniors, were named Daktronics-NAIA All-America Scholar-Athletes. Their head coach, Peggy Tuter, was also chosen as the MCAC Coach of the Year in 2004.

SENIOR WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS TERRA VAN DUINE (8), JESSICA SILLIMAN (3), NICCI WARD (21), JILIAN CREIGHTON (9), SUGGLIS CHINCHILLA (33), TENYSHA BROWN (7), AND MICHELLE TERRY (2), (NOT PICTURED).

NARVA PHOTO/EMILY FARLEY

2004-2005 Women's Volleyball Roster

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
2	Michelle Terry	Sr.	Defensive Specialist
3	Jessica Silliman	Sr.	Outside Hitter
6	Whitney Abramson	Jr.	Setter/D.S.
7	Tenysha Brown	Sr.	Middle Hitter
8	Terra Van Duine	Sr.	Setter/Libero
9	Jilian Creighton	Sr.	Outside Hitter
10	Gabriela Carvalho	Fr.	Setter
11	Francesca Chavez	Jr.	Defensive Specialist
16	Stephanie Blake	Fr.	Outside/MiddleHitter
18	Anna Pfeifer	Fr.	Middle Hitter
20	Lavinia Vaitai	Fr.	Right Side Hitter
21	Nicci Ward	Sr.	Defensive Specialist
22	Brynne Musser	Fr.	Outside Hitter/D.S.
23	Mallory Super	Jr.	Defensive Specialist
24	Meghaan Fountain	Jr.	Middle Hitter
33	Sugglis Chinchilla	Sr.	Outside Hitter

Head Coach: Peggy Tuter

2004-2005 Men's Volleyball Roster

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
1	Cristian Maciel	SO	OH
2	Marco Rabello	JR	MH
3	Caio Maciel	FR	MH
4	Henry Kiggundu	FR	OH
6	Simon Golola	SO	MH
7	Ronald Kabaale	FR	OH
9	Joao Paulo da Silva	FR	S
10	Daniel Joens	SO	OH
11	Wilfredo Ponce	SR	S
12	Walker Swan	JR	MH
13	Ryan Stafford	FR	OH
17	Brett Ferguson	FR	D

Head Coach: Cory Frederick
Assistant Coach: Mladen Bundalo
Student Assistant Coach: Gustavo Roche

Senior Wilfredo Ponce goes for the kill in a home game last spring. The Pirates ended the season with a 22-4 record and a trip to nationals.

Narva Photo/Jessica Rechenberger

Men's volleyball stays ranked inside nation's top 10

"Overall it didn't end the way we wanted it to," said head coach Cory Frederick. "But 22-4 and a trip to nationals is hardly a disappointment."

Hardly a disappointment indeed, for a team that was never ranked outside of the nation's top 10.

The Park University men's volleyball program closed up their 2005 campaign as they failed to advance out of pool play at the national tournament in St. Charles, Mo. But for a program that's endured a lot of change in recent times, including three different head coaches in three years, Frederick sees little to be concerned with about his program's future.

"As a first year head coach with these guys," says Frederick, "and with five guys coming back from last year's team, I am very comfortable with how this team is set up for years to come."

Among those returning were Walker Swan and Cristian Maciel.

"Walker, by the end of the year, had one of the best hitting percentages in the country at .501," says Frederick. "Since he's come here from high school in Nebraska, he's worked hard to take his game from being real raw, to developing into the great player he is."

The team leader in games played and blocks, Swan was also named first-team All-Conference in 2005.

Another first-team All-Conference selection was Maciel, who also named to the All-Tournament team for his play at the 2005 nationals.

"It's a great honor," Frederick says. "It basically says you're one of the top six player six players in the country and he earned it with the tournament he had. He's a great kid and great player, and I'm excited to have him coming back as well."

"Someone really to look out for in 2005 will be (Joao) Paulo da Silva," says Frederick. "He was a freshman setter last year and we only had half the season to work with him, but he turned into quite a player in a short period of time. He was named national player of the week and conference setter of the week twice."

So with two returning All-Conference first teamers, a returning second-team All-Conference selection in Marco Rabello, and an honorable mention selection in Simon Golola, things look to be in good hands for the upcoming 2006 season.

"Hey, all you can ask for is your guys to work hard and they all certainly do that," says Frederick. "So, yeah, I'm very much looking forward to next season."

And perhaps a little longer stay at nationals.

FRESHMAN TIFFANY DAWSON (LEFT) GALLOPS OVER A HURDLE AT A TRACK PRACTICE LAST SPRING. JUNIOR ADHEL RIAK AND FRESHMAN MELINDA JANSEN (ABOVE) STRETCH BEFORE AN EVENING PRACTICE AT THE TRACK.

NARVA PHOTOS/ CHERIE JOURNEE AND KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

Women's Track and Field

NAME	YR	EVENT
Brookshier, Lacey	Fr.	Throws
Dawson, Tiffany	Fr.	Hurdle
Fisher, Erycka	Fr.	Sprint
Franchon, Helen	Jr.	Distance
Harrison, Keyon	Fr.	Sprint/Jumps
Hulett, Sara	Fr.	Throws
Jansen, Melinda	Fr.	Mid-Distance
Kazee, Monique	Fr.	Hurdle/Sprint
Mackey, Reagan	Jr.	Sprint
Pitia, Sara	Fr.	Mid-Distance
Riak, Adhel	Jr.	Mid-Distance
Richardson, Jill	Fr.	Distance
Ruud, Liza	Sr.	Sprint
Scott, Kasey	Sr.	Sprint
Sims, Victoria	Fr.	Sprint
Tackett, Becky	So.	Distance
Williams, Anna-Kay	Fr.	Mid-Distance

Men's Track and Field

NAME	YR	EVENT
Allred, Chris	Fr.	Distance
Beal, James	Fr.	Sprint
Black, Mitchell	Jr.	Sprint/Hurdle
Bowman, Leon	Jr.	Mid-Distance
Butler, Lawrence	Fr.	Sprint/Jumps
Chery, Lens	Fr.	Mid-Distance
Conkling, Kyle	Fr.	Sprint/Jumps
French, Aaron	Fr.	Sprint/Jumps
Longuski, Keith	Jr.	Distance
Mauzey, Travis	Fr.	Mid-Distance
Miles, John	Fr.	Sprint
Moss, Justin	Fr.	Distance
Parker, Charles	Fr.	Sprint
Rea, Crispin	Fr.	Distance
Warner, Robert	Fr.	Mid-Distance
White, Roger	Sr.	Race Walk
Willes, Jeremiah	Jr.	Sprint/Jumps
Yimer, Endashaw	Fr.	Distance

Head Coach: Brian Renshaw
Assistant Coach: Ron Pearl

2004-2005 Cross Country Roster

Men's

Name	Yr.
Chris Allred	Fr.
Keith Longuski	Jr.
Travis Mauzey	Fr.
Justin Moss	Fr.
Crispin Rea	Fr.
James Shatto	Jr.
Robert Warner	Fr.
Roger White	Sr.

Women's

Name	Yr.
Helen Frachon	Jr.
Melinda Jansen	Fr.
Reagan Mackey	Jr.
Amy Musil	Jr.
Sara Pitia	Fr.
Jill Prather	Fr.
Adhel Riak	Jr.
Jill Richardson	So.
Becky Tackett	So.
Anna-Kay Williams	Fr.

Reagan Mackey, junior, runs up the stone stairs from Copley Hall to Mackay Hall during a cross country practice last fall.
Narva Photo/ Kelley Walker-Chance

Cross country team sends junior to NAIA nationals

After a season filled with building and bonding as a team, the Park University cross country team sent one member of the men's team to the NAIA National Championship.

Keith Longuski, a junior who was also named a Daktronics-NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete, finished 46th at the national meet. This competition, which was held in Louisville, Ky., was an 8K course. Longuski recorded a time of 26:00:90 to improve his time from the previous year when he placed 195th.

Longuski earned his way to Nationals with a second-place finish at the NAIA Region IV Championships, which were held in Lincoln, Neb. He also took first place at the MCAC Championship in Lawrence, Kan. This earned him the honor of MCAC Most Valuable Performer.

Other men who had strong showings for Park included freshmen Chris Allred and Crispin Rea. Allred took fourth at the Haskell Invitational and second at the MCAC Championship. He received first-team all-conference honors for this. Rea came in 14th at the MCAC Championship, which earned him second-team all-conference honors.

On the women's side, Becky Tackett placed well in many meets throughout the season. She placed sixth at the Emporia State Invitational, first at the Haskell Invitational, 17th at the NAIA Mid-States Classic, and 19th at the NAIA Region IV Championship. A third-place finish at the MCAC Championship made her a first-team all-conference honoree.

At the MCAC Championship, freshman Sara Pitia received second-team honors. She had taken fifth at the Haskell Invitational earlier in the season. Two other women, Amy Musil and Adhel Riak, also finished in the top ten at this meet.

As a team, the men had a fifth-place finish at the Emporia State Invitational, a second-place finish at the MCAC Championship, and a 13th-place finish at the NAIA Region IV Championship.

The women brought in similar results, finishing seventh at the Bob Timmons Invitational at KU, third at the Emporia State Invitational, second at the MCAC Championship, and 12th at the Regional Championship.

Men's basketball team loses head coach, three seniors after 12-18 record

~Head Coach Claude English resigns after 13 years of coaching

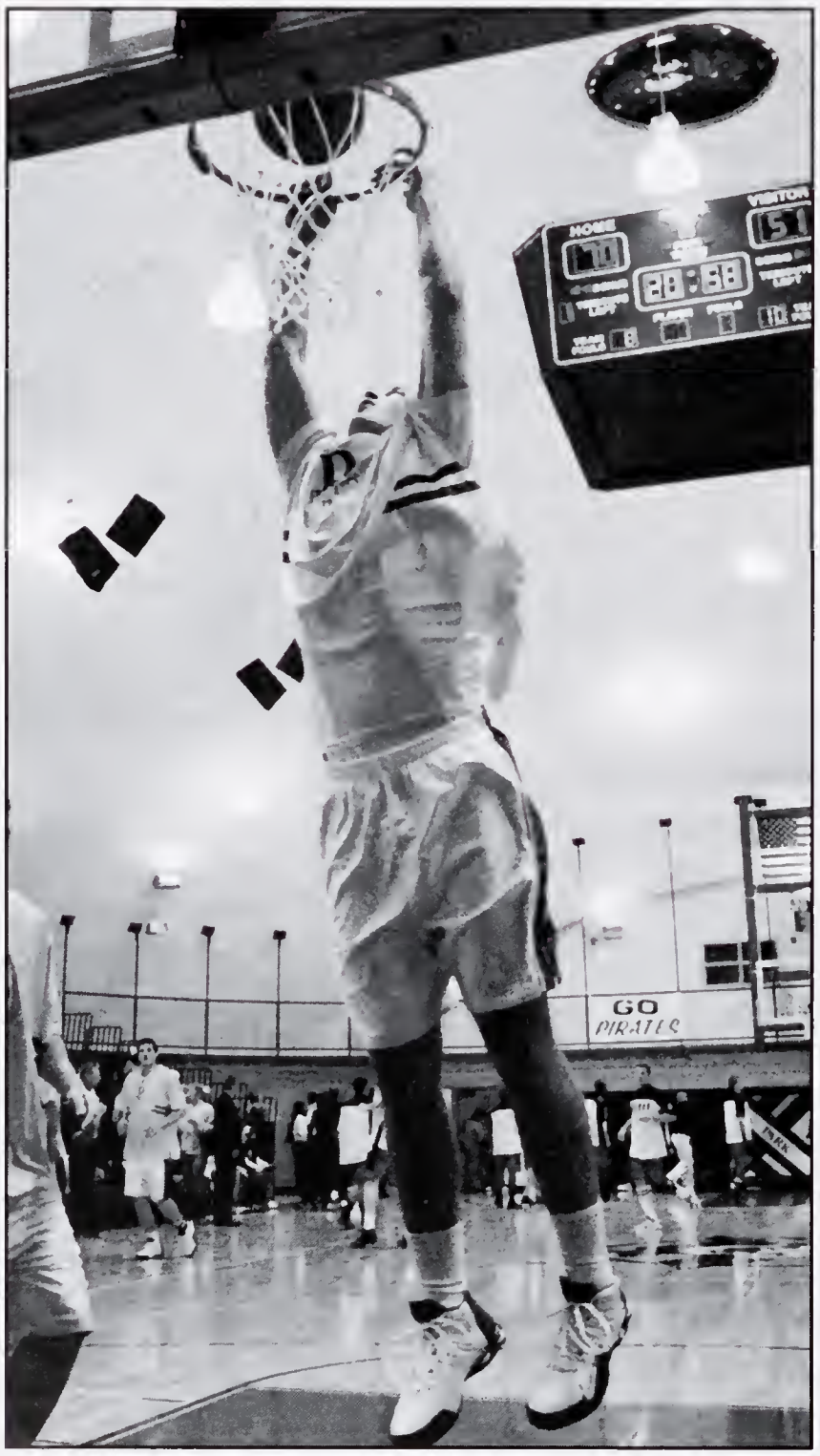
The men's basketball season of 2004-2005 would be the final one for both the head coach and three senior players. The Pirates posted a record of 12 wins and 18 losses.

Head coach Claude English capped off a 13-year coaching career at Park with 182 wins and 207 losses. This year was one he described as being "two seasons in one." After starting out well with four wins against teams like William Jewell College and Benedictine College, the Pirates fell into an 11-game losing streak.

In January, the men returned to winning with a victory over Missouri Baptist at home. Then, they went on to win all but one of their remaining home games. In one of these games, the Pirates made a total of 99 points to beat Union College. They also had 13 successful 3-point field goals in this game, along with a season-high of 30 assists.

Within the team, several players also set individual highs during the season. Senior Chuck Reed, who was named to the NAIA All-Independent Region first team, made 31 points in a game against McKendree College. Reed also made a team high of five 3-point goals against Union College.

Two other seniors, Derek Stanley and Damien Stanley, were named to the NAIA All-Independent Region second team. Derek Stanley made a team-high of nine free throws in a game against Newman University. Damien Stanley, who averaged 10.5 points per game, was also named a Daktronics-NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete.



2004-2005 Men's Basketball Roster

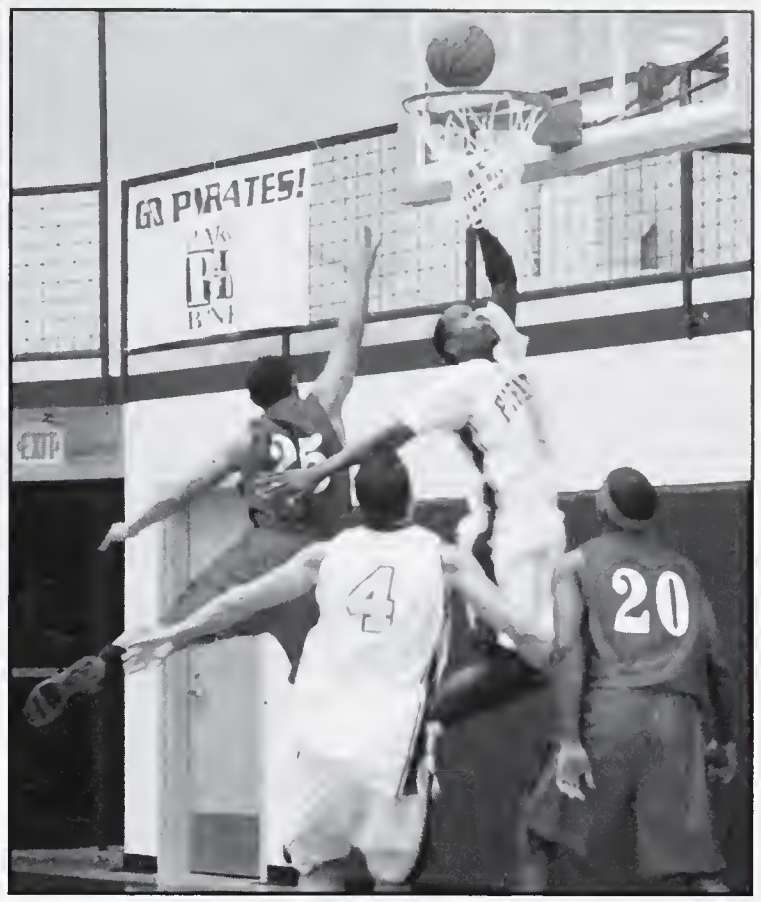
#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
2	Mitchell Black	So.	Guard
3	Chuck Reed	Sr.	Guard
4	Derek Stanley	Sr.	Forward
5	Damien Stanley	Sr.	Forward
10	Chris Gaston	Jr.	Guard
11	Donovan Williams	Fr.	Guard
12	Donovan Thompson	Jr.	Guard
13	Frank Baptiste	So.	Forward
20	Marcelo Henriques	Fr.	Guard
22	Marcus Simms	Jr.	Guard
31	Admir Aljic	Fr.	Forward
32	Ben Wallis	Fr.	Forward
33	Ismar Osmanovid	Fr.	Forward

Head Coach: Claude English
Assistant Coach: Antowin Edwards

SENIOR DEREK STANLEY (LEFT) TIPS ONE IN DURING WARM-UPS AT A HOME BASKETBALL GAME LAST WINTER. JUNIOR MARCUS SIMMS (TOP LEFT NEXT PAGE) GUARDS AN OPPONENT WHILE SENIOR LEADERS CHUCK REED AND DEREK STANLEY (TOP RIGHT) WORK ON MAKING A TWO-POINTER. REED (BOTTOM CENTER) PUSHES PAST THE OPPOSING TEAM TO DRIVE ONE IN AGAIN.

NARVA PHOTOS/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

PIRATES
22


GO PIRATES!
4
20

THE 2005 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM GATHERS FOR A TEAM HUDDLE DURING A GAME AT THE BRECKON SPORTS CENTER LAST WINTER. THE LADY PIRATES WENT 13-15 IN 2005.

NARVA PHOTO/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

Young women's basketball team finishes strong in 04-05

The 2004-2005 season for the Park University Women's basketball team was filled with inconsistencies. With both wins and losses.

A young team, only two seniors and six freshman, fought the women to an overall 13-15 record. No extended losing streaks, and no extended winning streaks, left the team with an average numerical finish to their season.

However, there were bright spots.

With such a young team you worry about those stretches in which you never think you're going to win again. The first seven games could have mired the women in a season long slump. A 2-5 start, capped by three losses in a row, set the Pirates back before they could even get started.

But the women would win five of their next nine games, highlighted by back to back road wins against Harris-Stowe State and Saint Mary.

Led offensively by center Katie Cummings, forward Cherrale Hicks, and forward LaTasha Johnson, the Pirates enjoyed a nine game stretch in which they never scored less than 70 points, and had a three game winning streak.

If the finish to the 04-05 season is any indication of the direction the women's basketball team is going, Pirate fans may want to hop aboard this train in 2006.

FRESHMAN KAYLA CHEENEY (LEFT) DRIVES ONE IN DURING A GAME AT THE BRECKON SPORTS CENTER LAST WINTER. SENIOR RARNDI JOHNSON AND JUNIOR KATIE CUMMINGS (BOTTOM RIGHT) FIGHT FOR A REBOUND.

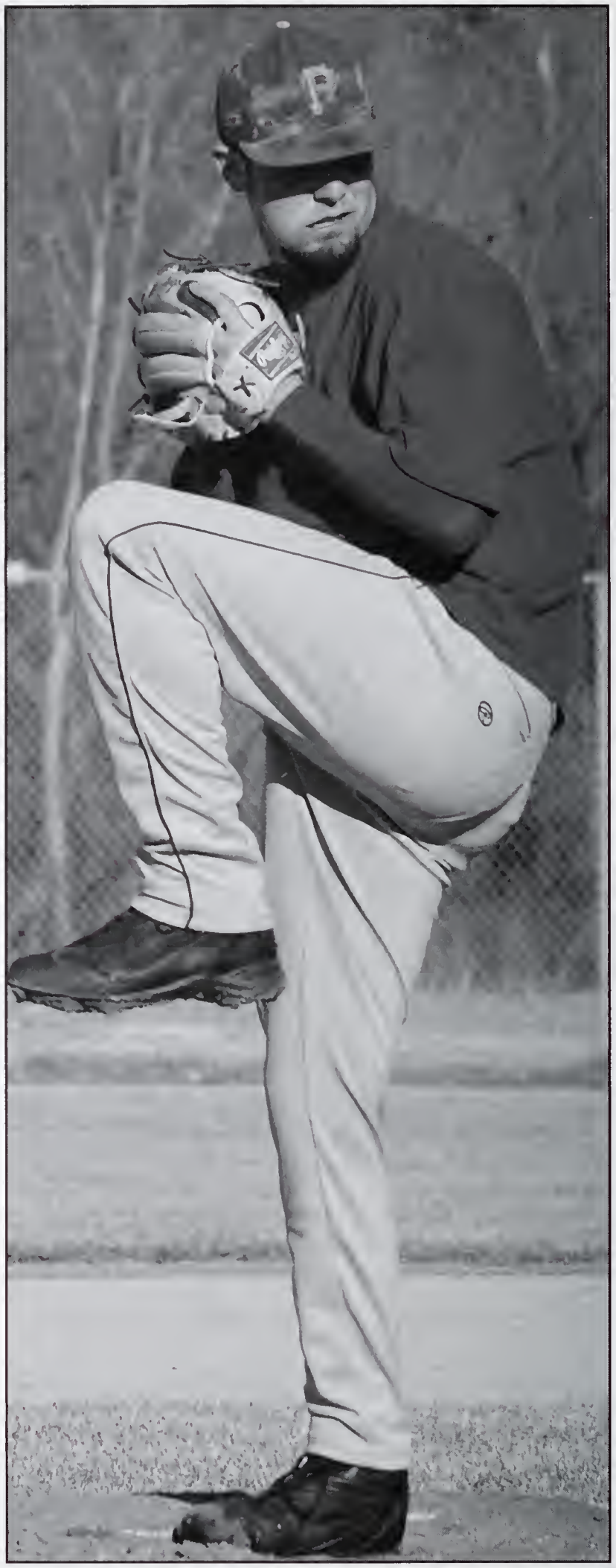
NARVA PHOTOS/ CHERIE JOURNEE AND KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

2004-2005 Women's Basketball Roster

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
10	Michelle Dean	Sr.	Guard
11	Rachel Bankhead	Fr.	Guard
14	Christin Roten	So.	Guard
15	Kayla Cheeney	Fr.	Guard
21	Randi Johnson	Sr	Forward
24	LaTasha Johnson	Jr.	Forward
25	Brianna Hernandez	Fr.	Guard
30	Cherrale Ricks	Fr.	Forward
32	Fareeda Washington	Jr.	Guard
33	Callie Smith	Fr.	Guard
34	LaToya Williams	So.	Forward
40	Jacqueline Greer	Fr.	Guard
50	Katie Cummings	Jr.	Center

Head Coach: Joe C. Meriweather
Assistant Coaches: Kim Bradley, Martina Mihailovic

PARK PIRATES



2004-2005 Baseball Roster

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
2	Greg Frost	FR	IF/C/P
4	Aaron Courter	JR	IF
5	Luke Johnson	SR	IF
7	Dustin Hylton	JR	IF
8	Vince Sola	SO	C
10	Stanley Thresher	SO	P
11	Ross McCoy	SO	IF/P
12	Aaron Pryor	JR	OF
13	Ricardo Avalos	SR	OF
15	Kevin Scobee	JR	P
17	Roy Rush	JR	P
18	Adam Clay	SR	P
19	Jacob Moore	FR	IF/OF
20	John O'Rourke	JR	IF
21	Mohammad Mohammed	JR	OF/P
22	Michel Scavuzzo	FR	IF/P
23	Ryne Mendez	SO	IF/P
24	Tommy Bennett	JR	IF/P
25	Jeremy McIntire	SR	C
27	Jason Miller	JR	OF/P
32	Michael Johnson	JR	P
33	Ryan Kinney	SO	IF
34	Jeremy Wilson	FR	OF/P
44	Daniel Redman	SO	IF/P

Head Coach: Cary Lundy

Assistant Coaches: Hank Edwards, Ben Webber, Travis Cunningham

JUNIOR AARON COURTER (TOP LEFT) SMACKED THE BALL AT A HOME GAME LAST SPRING. PITCHER ADAM CLAY (TOP RIGHT) WENT ON TO PLAY FOR THE KANSAS CITY T-BONES AFTER HIS CAREER AS A PIRATE ENDED LAST SEASON.

NARVA PHOTOS/KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

Baseball finishes season 22-28; six players win All-MCAC honors

The Park University baseball team finished off their 2005 season with a 22-28 record. In conference play, they had 12 wins and 14 losses.

After splitting several wins at home against teams from Ottawa and the University of St. Mary, the Pirates traveled to Panama City, Fla. where they entered an eight-game slump. Once back in Parkville, they returned to winning in a game against Dordt College.

Solid wins against University of Sioux Falls, Peru State College, and Oklahoma Wesleyan University would be high points throughout the remainder of the season. Out of 21 games played at home, Park recorded 13 victories.

"We were just too banged up in our starting pitching staff to get to post-season this year," explains Head Coach Cary Lundy. "It wasn't really pitching injuries but more off the field health problems than anything else."

Even though the Pirates didn't get to post-season, Lundy says many of his players performed well.

"Luke Johnson had a pretty good year," says Lundy. "Aaron Courter had a .388 from our lead-off spot and he was also an Academic All-American. Tommy Bennett was an Academic All-American and he had a decent year.

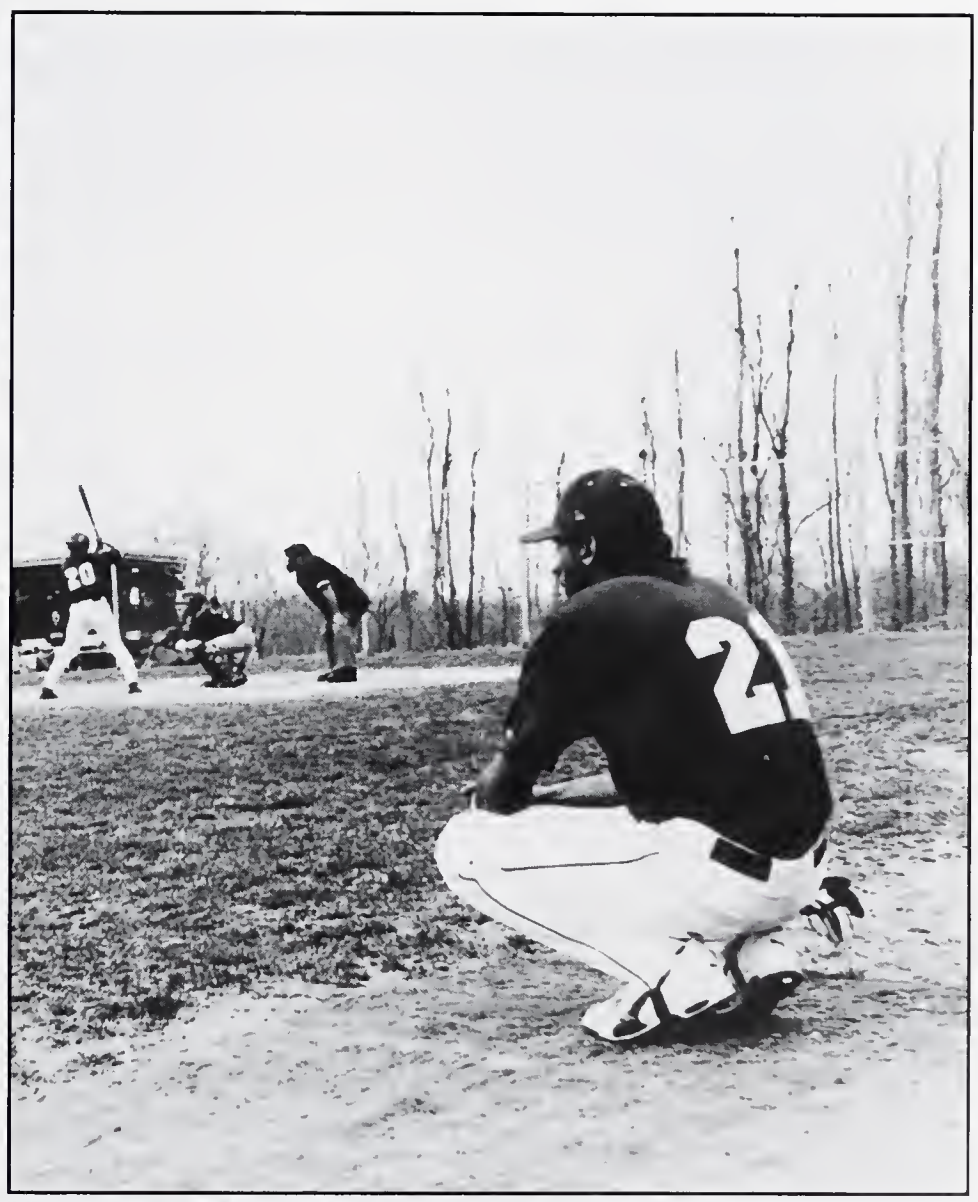
"Johnny O'Rourke was pretty good offensively. Defensively, I think Mohammad Mohammad was outstanding in center field. He played very well out there for us."

At the conclusion of the season, six players were awarded honorable mention All-MCAC honors. One senior who was honored was Luke Johnson, who had a team-high of 11 home runs and 41 RBI. Junior Tommy Bennett hit .319 in 2005 with five homers. Aaron Courter, Mohammad Mohammad, and John O'Rourke, all juniors, had batting averages of .388, .301, and .333, respectively.

Rounding out the six honorees was senior Adam Clay. Named MCAC Pitcher of the Year last season, he led the Pirates to seven wins and had 76 strikeouts this year as Park's number-one starter. After Park's season ended, Clay went on to sign a professional contract with the Northern League's Kansas City T-Bones.

"We've only lost two players off our team from last year," says Lundy, looking ahead to spring of 2006. "We feel good about the direction of our program."

SOPHOMORE VINCE SOLA CATCHES DURING PRACTICE LAST SPRING. *NARVA PHOTO/KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE*



MOHAMMAD MOHAMMED LOOKED ON AS JOHN O'ROURKE WAS AT BAT LAST SPRING. *NARVA PHOTO/KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE*

Senior Shannon Leap, and Juniors Adeile Ahmu and Casey Fry celebrate an out.

Narva Photo/ Kelley Walker-Chance

Softball finishes 2005 with four straight wins

After a year off from the conference tournament, the Park University softball team made a return trip in 2005, thanks to two four-game winning streaks during conference play.

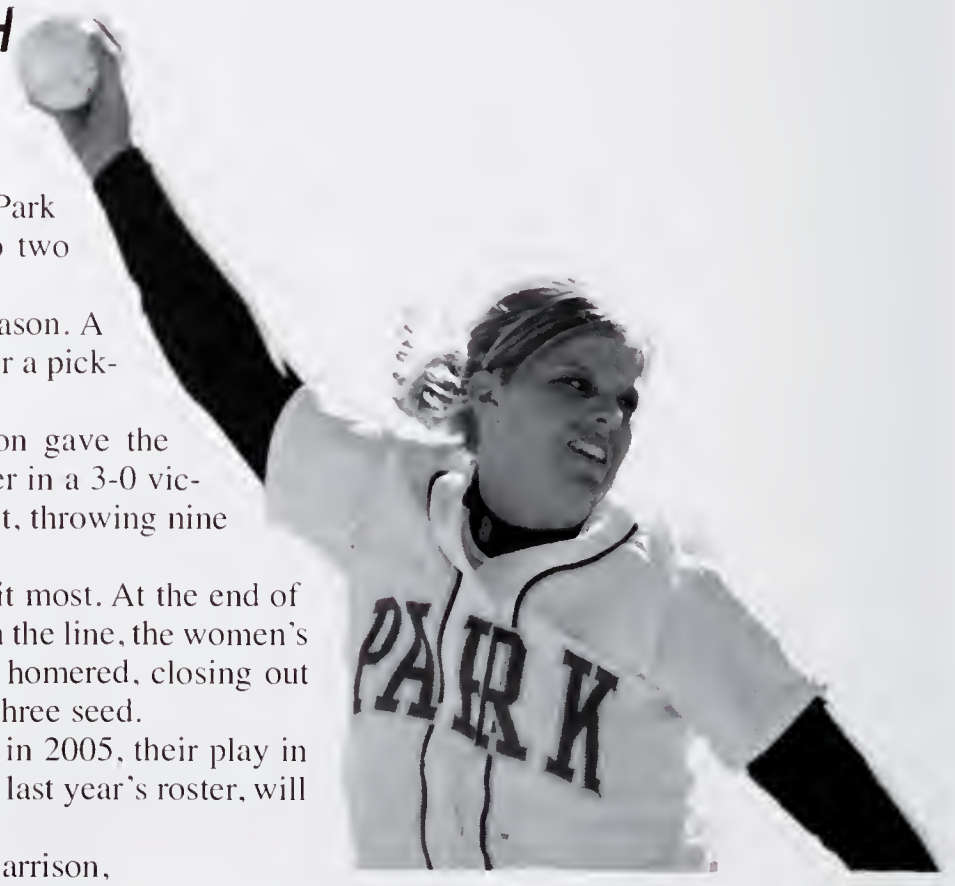
The first four-gamer came at the start of the conference season. A slow start to the team's overall record left the women looking for a pick-me-up, with junior Brooke Harrison providing the lift.

Against York, and the day after a double-header, Harrison gave the could-be sluggish day a jolt, throwing a complete game no-hitter in a 3-0 victory. In game two Holly Gentry was almost as equally dominant, throwing nine innings of two-hit ball in a 1-0 victory.

The second four game streak came when the team needed it most. At the end of conference play, and with a seed in the conference tournament on the line, the women's offense came alive as Trista Tomasek and Whitney McDonald homered, closing out the double-header sweep against Central Christian; sealing the three seed.

While the team's overall record (19-22) wasn't impressive in 2005, their play in conference was. An 11-5 record, and only losing two players off last year's roster, will leave the team confident heading into 2006.

Among those returning are first-team MCAC selections Harrison, Tomasek, Katie Immele, and honorable mention picks Gentry, McDonald, and Kate Johnson.

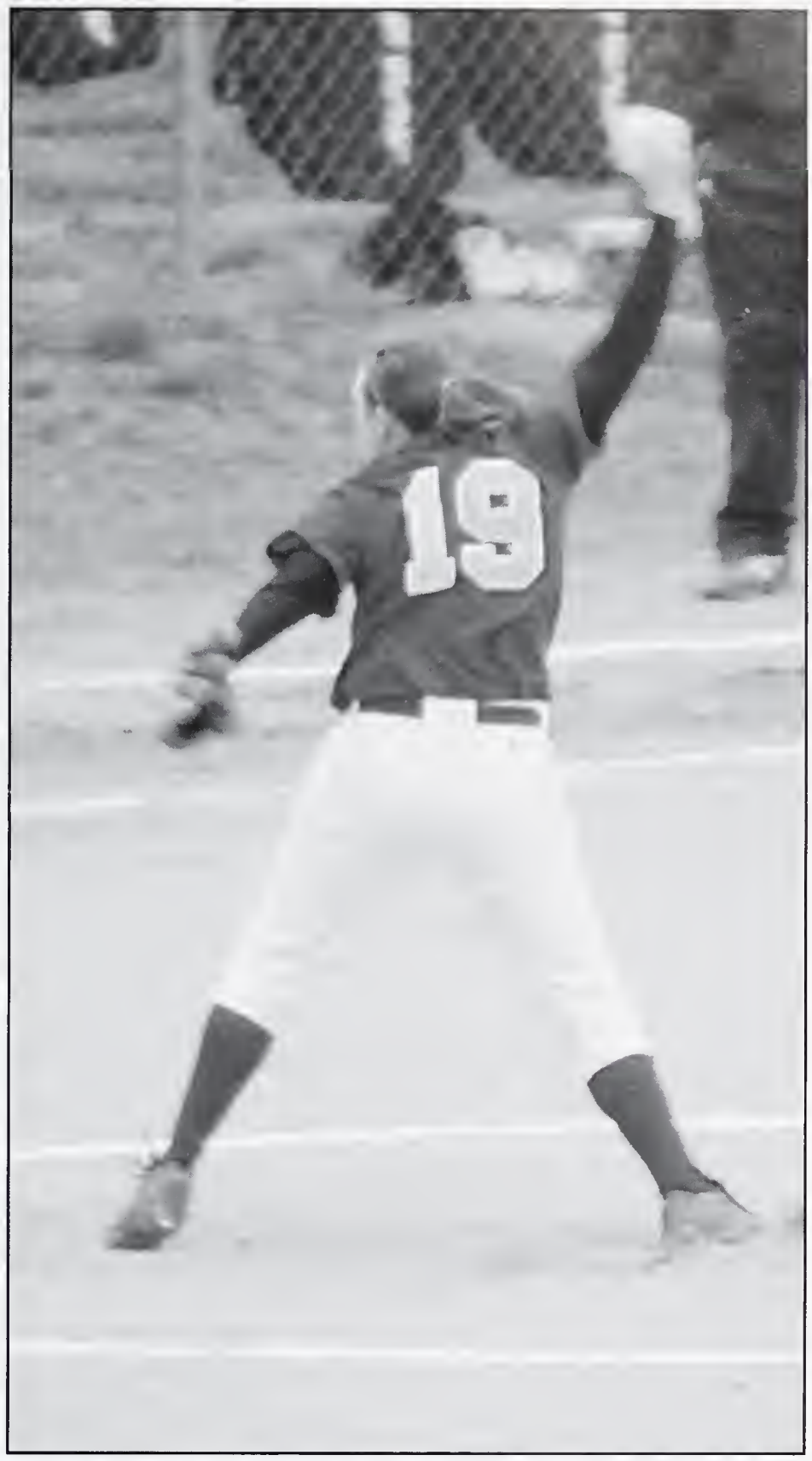


Junior Holly Gentry fires one in at a home game last spring. *Narva Photo/Kelley Walker-Chance*

2004-2005 Softball Roster

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.
2	Margaret Waters	SO	OF
3	Nicole Betz	FR	LF
4	Kathleen Johnson	JR	2B
7	Casey Fry	JR	C/INF
9	Holly Gentry	JR	P/1B
10	Shannon Leap	SR	3B
12	Katie Immele	SO	CF
15	Racheal Stoops	SR	RF
18	Lindsay Sharp	JR	C
19	Brooke Harrison	JR	P
21	Trista Tomasek	JR	C/1B/3B
22	Stephanie Ryherd	JR	SS/P
33	Whitney Macdonald	JR	1B
44	Adeile Ahmu	JR	3B

Head Coach: Monica Wade
Assistant Coach: Michelle Kellogg



Junior Brooke Harrison (top right) throws a heater during a home game last spring. Sophomore Katie Immele (bottom right) throws an out, and Senior Shannon Leap (center) stands at bat.

Narva Photos/ Kelley Walker-Chance

Women's golf meets success in sophomore year of program

The second year of existence for a college program is not supposed to be one of success. It's supposed to be one of positive steps and a clear plan for the future. Well, that's just not the case with Park University's Women's Golf team.

Head coach Kelly Defeo has led her squad to the conference tournament and the regional tournament both years, with little signs of stopping there. A second place finish at conference, and a sixth place finish at regionals in 2004, pulls the Pirates' future to the present.

"Right now we're in great position in regards to talent," says Defeo. "Katie Johnson is our number one. She's the rock; she's just so consistent.

"Ashley Nicks is our number two and she really came on strong (as a freshman) by winning conference and placing fifth at regionals. She was also the conference Player of the Year.

"Amy Hollander was also a freshman last year and she really came along as the season went on. She worked hard on some things and continued to improve on her stroke average.

"And Sarah Molina really comes through and helps us in our scoring. She's getting better, and as she progresses, the team is going to continue to get a lot better as well."

With such a small, young group of women, there is no value that can be put on leadership and everyone pushing each other.

"That's where Katie comes in," says Defeo. "She's our captain and she understands the importance of growing as a team and pushing one another to get better. This program will only excel if we continue to grow as a team."

After a second place finish in conference in 2004, Defeo looks forward to another successful season, with just a slightly different ending.

"I'm really looking to win conference next year," Defeo says. "And I couldn't ask for a better group of girls to do it with."

2004-2005 Women's Golf Roster

Amy Hollander	FR
Katie Johnson	SO
Jenna Luth	FR
Sarah Moline	SO
Ashley Nicks	FR
Head Coach:	Kelly DeFeo

FRESHMAN AMY HOLLANDER PUTTS AT THE NATIONAL GOLF CLUB IN PARKVILLE LAST SPRING.

NARVA PHOTO/ CHERIE JOURNEE

Seniors Caffee, Rogers receive Parkite honors at annual awards convocation

The Park University Honors Convocation was held on April 13, 2005. This event recognizes students and faculty for outstanding achievements over the past year. Awards are given for academic achievement, performance in a given field, or service to Park.

The Deans Honors award is given to students with a cumulative GPA of 3.6 or above, degree seeking, full-time with sophomore status or above.

The Missouri Theta Chapter is the Park University chapter of Alpha Chi, a national college honor society. The purpose of Alpha Chi is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character. The society's name refers to truth and character.

The following were nominated for induction this year: Lauren R. Adkins, Jennifer M. Alleven, Lisa L. Anderson, Cheri R. Bonsignore, Jennifer D. Boro, Cheryl A. Cowley, Kendra M. Dickson, Melanie Kay Duddy, Nicholas L. Dupont, Gillian S. Ford, Carrie Anne Hallensleben, Melissa Hershewe, Richard Hughes, Paige DeVoe Hunsberger, Sage Thomas Isenmann, Mary Kathleen Jennings, Jessica L. Jensen, Cherie W. Journee, Peter J. Knowles, Beate Markus, Deborah Markus, Sammy Nasr, Nicole I. Neptune, Mary C. Lashbrook-Parker, Elena Prokopieva, Michelle L. Raines, Bethany Roemer, Jan Schelstrate, Paya Shafe, Bobbi Switzner, and Jennifer Tyack .

The C.W. Bailey award is given in memory of C.W. Bailey, grandfather of John Shelton '76, to students for the purpose of facilitating their education to the end that they make a contribution to society in the tradition of C.W. Bailey. It is presented to two freshmen students who have distinguished themselves and exhibited the spirit of Park University. This year's recipients were Charles Parker and Mary Beth Ernst.

The Who's Who Among Students award is given to representatives of Park University selected for publication in Who's Who among students in American Universities and colleges. The students selected for this year were Richard Adams, John Aidoo, Melissa Beal, Robert Collins, Mary Divilbiss, Marc Evason, Stephen Farrier, Kristin Gee, Debra Helm, Kathleen Johnson, Amanda Obaidat, Virginia Marker, Joanie Peterson, Ergys Prenika, Elena Prokopieva, Denzil Ross, Kristen Sloan, Walker Swan, Elisabeth Venard, and Elizabeth Weese.

The Outstanding Work Study Student was Jonathan Kwofie. Other outstanding student workers recognized include Dismas Assenga, Kari Belkhiria, Simona Cibotaru, Zenith Helm, Blair Howell, Vedrana Hrgota, Dany Kiki, Biljana Kostic, Catrina Lloyd, Valeriu Mutu, Joanie Peterson, Elena Prokopieva, Kristin Sloan, Demetri Trautwein, and Elisabeth Venard.

Student Senate awards included the Dusing-Proudfoot award, Toni Griggs award, Tipton award, and outstanding class members.

The Dusing-Proudfoot award was given to Dr. Diana McElroy. The Toni Griggs award, given to students who have made an outstanding contribution to Park University, was awarded to January Rogers. The Tipton award was given to Alisha Coggins. Outstanding class members are as follows: freshmen, Emilio Servigon and Nicole Betz; sophomores, Paul McLaughlin and Tara Briggs; juniors, Denzil Ross and Amanda Obaidat; non-graduating seniors, Sage Isenmann and Blair Howell.

The School for Arts and Humanities awards include art achievement awards for fine art, given to Cheryl Chatman, Melanie Clouser, Aaron Ennis, Jill Harmon, Helen Massaka, Kinuko Sato, and Adam Tillery. Graphic design award recipients were Thomas Gilland, Stacey Kemner, Melissa Orlowski, Bobbie Huckleberry, Cynthia Hinesley, Elizabeth Wendel, Carlos Ramon, Anjanette Buchanam, and Amber Rothwell.

FACULTY ATTENDING HONORS CONVOCATION HONORED DR. JEFFREY GLAUNER WITH A STANDING OVATION AFTER A PROCLAMATION WAS READ HONORING HIS SERVICE TO PARK. GLAUNER ANNOUNCED HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 23 YEARS.

NARVA PHOTO/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

Art Achievement awards in interior design went to Lauren Adkins, Kimberly Sayers, Jennifer Tyack, Angela Palermo, Valerie Thompson, Judith Hartegan, and Michelle Terry.

The following students' work was selected for award nomination at the third Biannual MGD Competition at Concordia University: Tom Gilland and Carlos Roman.

Christine Deem was recognized for her participation in the honors program at Park in interior design.

The International Facilities Management Association scholarship is given to "reward potential for excellence in facility management." This was awarded to Emily Drake.

The Annual Kansas City Artists Coalition Undergraduate Juried Art Competition participants were Lani Green and Kristy Spears.

The Communication Arts awards include the KGSP MVP Excellence award, given annually to the most valuable staff member at KGSP-FM 90.3. This year's recipients were Andrew Young and Casey Foulk. The Northland News MVP, given annually to the most valuable staff member at the Northland News, was awarded to Kyle Cooper.

The Friedman Interpersonal Communication award is presented for excellence in the principles of interpersonal and small group communication and was given to Amy Numer. The Cal Downs award in Communication Theory and Human Relations is given to the student who has shown exceptional performance in the area of communication theory and human relations and was awarded to Alisha Strosnider. Communication Arts Oratorical award winners were Melinda Jansen and Simon Mulama.

Journalist of the Year went to Kelli Bamforth. The Pica Pole award, presented to the student who demonstrated exceptional potential for development of professional skills in journalism, was awarded to Kevin Scobee, Mallory Super, and Jessica Rechenberger.

The Golden Pen award is presented for excellence in writing and was given to Nicholas Dupont, Melissa Hershewe and Elizabeth Weese. The Zone V award is given to the student who demonstrated exceptional potential in the field of photography this year, the award was given to Kelley Walker-Chance.

The Mary Barlow Writing award is for outstanding student writing, given to Kelly Kerrera and Alicia Lescanec.

The Nicholas Manchion Endowed English Scholarship award is a $500 scholarship award. It is presented annually to the winner of an original poetry contest judged by the English Department. Jeremy Ford was awarded this scholarship for his poem "Just Outside the Office."

The Charles S. Scott award is presented to the student who has done the best work in comparative theology during the 2003-2004 academic year and was given to Benjamin Gardner. The philosophy prize is presented to the student who has distinguished himself/herself in the study of philosophy; this award was presented to Bryce Downey.

The theater awards are presented yearly at a separate recognition ceremony. During the convocation, the theater faculty announced names of individuals and establishments in the community that provided major donations of time and/or resources to the theater department's success this year.

The departmental honors given were as follows: communication arts senior, Elizabeth Weese; junior, Melissa Hershewe; English senior, Gillian Ford; junior, Christina Jung; fine art senior, Cheryl Chatman; graphic design senior, Cherie Journee; junior, Darren Toliver; history senior, Tammy Parrott; junior, Vince Smith; interior design senior, Christine Deem; junior, Jan Schelstrate; modern language senior, Gillian Ford; junior, Jason Nowatzke.

The School for Natural and Applied Sciences recognized several students. The Burton W. Scheib Pre-Medical prize is given to a student majoring in science, preferably pre-medical, for excellent work in this field. This award was given to TuAnh Luong.

The CRC Press Freshman Chemistry Achievement award was awarded to Julie A. Senne in recognition of outstanding scholastic achievement in chemistry during the freshman year at Park. The Dr. William C. Pivonka award is given to an upper-division student who best represents the ideals of a chemistry major. The recipient this year was Kayann Tabanor.

The American Institute of Chemists honored an outstanding senior in the field of chemistry, Jennifer Boggess.

The Harold G. McDaniel award is given to honor outstanding students majoring in mathematics or natural science. The recipients were Dennis Eddy and Sarah MacMann.

The J. Malcolm Good award is presented for the best papers in mathematics. Carmelo Blazekovic was honored for his paper "Kurt Friedrich Godel and the Incompleteness Theorem," and Richard Hughes was honored for his paper "John vonNeumann."

The Professor L.A. Robbins Memorial award is given to a student who has distinguished themself in the natural science division and in athletics. The name will be engraved on the Professor L.A. Robbins trophy displayed in the trophy case in Mackay Foyer. This year's recipient was Shannon Leap.

The outstanding computer student award, co-sponsored by the ACM Club and the ICS department, went to Josh McKinzie. Outstanding graduating geoscience minor of the year award went to Amber Thomas. Outstanding graduating geography minor of the year award went to Bobby Huckleberry.

Departmental awards for Athletic Training, Haley Daniel senior, Kanako Ishida junior for Biology, Kimberly Adams senior, Amanda Obaidat junior awards for Chemistry, Jennifer Boggess senior for Computer Science, Valeriu Mutu senior, Paul John junior and for Mathematics, Valeriu Mutu senior.

Departmental awards were given for The School for Business and Management. The Park University Business Faculty award was given to the student who demonstrated exceptional leadership in the classroom and exceptional potential in the

LAUREN ADKINS, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT SENATE, PRESENTED SAGE ISENMANN WITH THE OUTSTANDING CLASS MEMBER AWARD AT THE ANNUAL HONORS CONVOCATION.

NARVA PHOTO/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

field of Business and that award went to Vedrana Hrgota.

The Educational Service Bureau of Dow Jones & Company, Inc., one of the pioneers of The Newspaper in the Classroom Program, created The Wall Street Journal Student Achievement Award to honor a student who shows exceptional scholarship in the classroom. This year, the award went to David Woodward.

The Financial Executives Institute award is given to an outstanding graduate at their annual banquet. This year's recipient was Terra Van Duine.

Departmental awards for accounting and finance went to Terra Van Duine, senior, and David Woodward, senior. For economics Vedrana Hrgota senior, for management/human resources the award went to Phillip Timmermeyer, junior, and Jody Morton, senior, and for marketing/ international business, the award went to Ilie Roibu, senior, and Jason Nowatze, junior.

Departmental awards for The School for Education included the Dorothy Watson Literacy award. The award was presented in the name of Dorothy Watson to undergraduate students showing exceptional promise in the field of Literacy Education.

The award for the Diagnosis and Remediation of Reading Difficulties went to Robert Collins. The Literacy for Early Childhood and Elementary Teachers award went to Kristen Sloan. The Literacy in the Secondary Classroom award went to Renee Potter. The Language and Literacy Development in Early Childhood Education went to Kelly Ayers. The Outstanding Student Teacher award is given to a student whose performance as a student teacher during the 2004-2005 academic year has been outstanding. In the early childhood level the award went to Kristen Griggs. For the elementary level the award went to Gwen Evans. For the middle school level, Destiny Seeber. The award in the secondary school level went to Amy Miller.

Departmental Honors for education went to Lisa Anderson, junior, and Elizabeth Hite, senior.

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society for Psychology. The purpose is to encourage, stimulate and maintain excellence in the scholarship of its members in all fields, particularly in psychology and to advance the science of psychology. The Park University Psi Chi chapter was chartered on December 6, 1996.

The following members were welcomed to Psi Chi's fellowship of common interest, mutual assistance and high endeavor. New inductees were Cheryl A. Cowley, Kayce E. Everett, Chessie L. Hernandez, Kathleen Johnson, Nicole I. Neptune, Kristen Sidwell, JaKyta Sullivan-Jackson, Juliana S. Turley and Brian Roger White.

Departmental honors for criminal justice went to Paige Davis Hunsberger, junior, Kelly Denice Jones, senior, and Richard Adams, senior. Awards for political science went to Billy Williams, junior. Awards in psychology went to Kathleen Johnson, junior, and Cheryl Cowley, senior. For social work, awards went to Corrie Renfrow, senior, and Kendra Dickson, senior.

The Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, this award was presented annually, in December, at the Governor's Conference on Higher Education in Jefferson City. This year's recipient, from Park University was Dr. Andrew Johnson.

The Excellence in Academic Advising award is given to recognize faculty who have achieved excellence in providing Park University students academic advising and mentoring. The award is intended to recognize outstanding contributions in helping students define and achieve their academic goals. This year, the award went to Scott Hageman.

The Davidson Hinde/Carolyn Hinde Zarkaryan Memorial award is given to those who best represent the spirit of Park University. Two students and either an alumni, faculty or staff member are selected annually. They best promote in others that quality of excellence that has always been associated with a Park University education. The awards are presented in memory of Louisa Davidson Hinde and Carolyn (Patty) Hinde Zarkaryan, '56 and are given by their family. This year Amy Harder and Walker Swan received the award.

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award was established by Manuchair Ebadi in recognition of Delta W. Gier. Ebai, a Park University Alumnus, established this award in 1998, to honor Professor Delta W. Gier. Gier served Park University in the Natural Science Division from 1948 until his retirement as Program Administrator of the Pre-Professional Health Science Program in 1990. Thanks to Dr. Ebadi's continued generosity, we pay tribute to a full-time faculty member who shows evidence of commitment to high standards of excellence in the area of scholarship of teaching, of discovery, of integration or of service. The recipient shows effective and innovative connections between teaching and research, especially by undergraduate student involvement and participation. The recipient of this award receives a plaque and a check for $500. In addition, the name will be inscribed on the commemorating plaque presented to the college by Ebadi in Mackay Hall. The award went to Carol Getty, Ph.D.

The J.L. Zwingle award is given to an outstanding faculty member for 2004-2005. The students of Park University are proud to pay tribute to an outstanding faculty member as voted by the student body. The award went to marsha morgan.

Parker Memorial Funds are awarded to the male and female student best exemplifying the ideals of Park University. This award was endowed by Dr. Elliot F. Parker in memory of his parents, Albert George and Jessie Beverley Parker. This is, by far, the most prestigious honor bestowed on any student at Park University. The 2004-2005 Outstanding Parkites were January Rogers and Larry Caffee.

Dr. Kathy Lofflin presented the education department awards at the honors convocation.

Narva Photo/ Kelley Walker-Chance

Theater season 2004-2005 brings classics

By: Elizabeth Weese

The theater department stayed busy during 2004-2005 performing two main stage plays, a one act play festival and premiering a student written and produced play.

Brent Rogers and Mary Divilbiss rehearse a scene from last fall's play, "Barefoot in the Park" by Neil Simon.
Narva Photo/ Kelley Walker-Chance

The fall play was "Barefoot in the Park," by Neil Simon starring Brent Rogers as "Paul" and Mary Divilbiss as "Corie." The two played newlyweds who have to adjust to married life while dealing with in-laws, making a home together, and life in a New York City apartment. Other cast members included Peter and Lisa Bakely, a real-life husband and wife team that played Corie's parents. Valeriu Mutu played a telephone repairman and Daniel Ngibuini played a deliveryman.

The spring play brought another classic to the stage, "A Streetcar Named Desire," by Tennessee Williams. The play featured Ashley Carlson as Blanche DuBois, the neurotic sister. Rene Solomon played Stella Kowalski, Blanche's wayward sister. Her husband, Stanley was played by Bobby Hoops.

Gregory Crainshaw played Pablo, Mohamud Sheikh played the Collector, Brent Rogers played the Doctor and Stacy Wiedmaier played the Nurse.

Extras for the play were Ashley Nicks, Daniel Ngibuini and Carolina Rodriguez.

Three Park alumni joined the cast, Eunice was played by Laura (Mooney) Blake, Steve was played by her real-life husband Damian Blake. Justin Kuder played Mitch, Blanche's boyfriend.

The big premiere for one Park junior came when his play, "In Death" was brought to the stage.

Hoops wrote, directed and starred in the play, which took life in the studio theater on the third floor of Alumni Hall in April, 2005.

Hoops said his experiences at Park have helped him hone his acting skills, as well as his love of writing and directing.

"Being a part of the theater program here has helped me to go back to tghe basics and find a solid foundation for my acting," Hoops said. It's traditional and small working here wityh marsha (marsha morgan, associate professor of theater) but it's growing."

Mary Divilbiss played 'Corie" in "Barefoot in the Park" last fall.
Narva Photo/ Kelley Walker-Chance

The story of "In Death" revolves around Adam, who is 19 and a freshman in college. He commits suicide and three days later he is present at his own funeral. He

and student works to campus stages

has a spirit guide named Marko who takes him through his new and unfamiliar world. Adam can be seen only when others can break through the barrier of death. The focus is on Adam's attempt to tie up loose ends after his death and set things right.

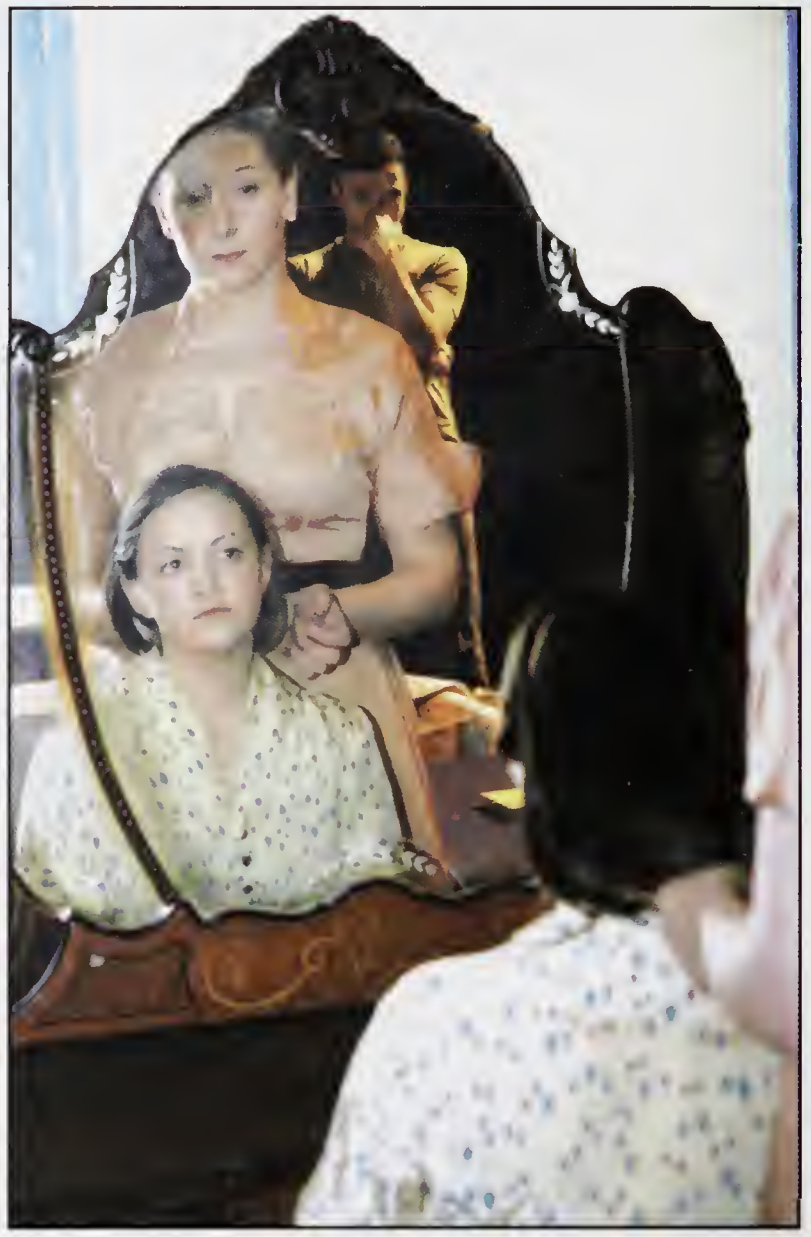
"We have a special stage crew for this production," explained Hoops. "There are characters that act as 'angels' who change the set while everything else is happening. I wanted them to be a part of it, and not try to hide them. I think you need to move it around and take away from the illusion because it feels more realistic that way."

Cast members included Brent Rogers as Adam, Nima Shafe as Marko, Viveca Shoemaker as Mary, Daniel Ngibuini as Jesus, Richard Sutton and Rebecca Dempsey as Adam's parents, Paya Shafe, Paco Colbert, Joseph Walton, and Emilio Servignon as Adam's friends, Marcelo Henriques as the man in the park and Carolina Rodriguez as the dead girl. The stage manager was Rene Solomon, and the house manager was Sara Caldwell.

On top of all of the shows during the 2004-2005 theater season, preparations were being made for new additions to the theater department.

One major addition to the department in the fall of 2005 was bringing a new, full-time faculty on board to assist morgan with her duties. Morgan has acted as the sole full-time faculty in the theater department for more than 10 years.

Mary Divilbiss and Brent Rogers rehearse a newlywed fighting scene for "Barefoot in the Park" last fall. *Narva Photo/Kelley Walker-Chance*



NIMA SHAFFE (TOP LEFT) AND BRENT ROGERS REHEARSE A SCENE IN THE PLAY, "IN DEATH," WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY PARK JUNIOR BOBBY HOOPS LAST SPRING. ASHLEY CARLSON (TOP RIGHT) AND RENE SOLOMON REHEARSE A SCENE IN LAST SPRING'S PLAY, "A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE." RENEE SOLOMAN AND HOOPS (BOTTOM RIGHT) REHEARSE A SCENE FOR "A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE." SHAFFE AND ROGERS (TOP RIGHT OPPOSITE PAGE) MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING "IN DEATH" AS MARKO AND ADAM. CARLSON AND HOOPS (BOTTOM RIGHT OPPOSITE PAGE) REHEARSE FOR "A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE."

NARVA PHOTOS/ KELLEY WALKER-CHANCE

2004-05
season

theatre

Congratulations to the class of 2005!

On May 7, 2005, 382 Park University students became alumni of the university. Parkville area graduates crossed the stage at the Community of Christ Auditorium in Independence, Mo., beginning their walk as students, and ending with degrees.

For the first time, a student from the Parkville campus, Ergys Prenika, gave the comencement address, focusing on his triumphs and hardships. He told stories of how he came to Park, and how he hopes each graduate will remember their time on the hills of Park University.

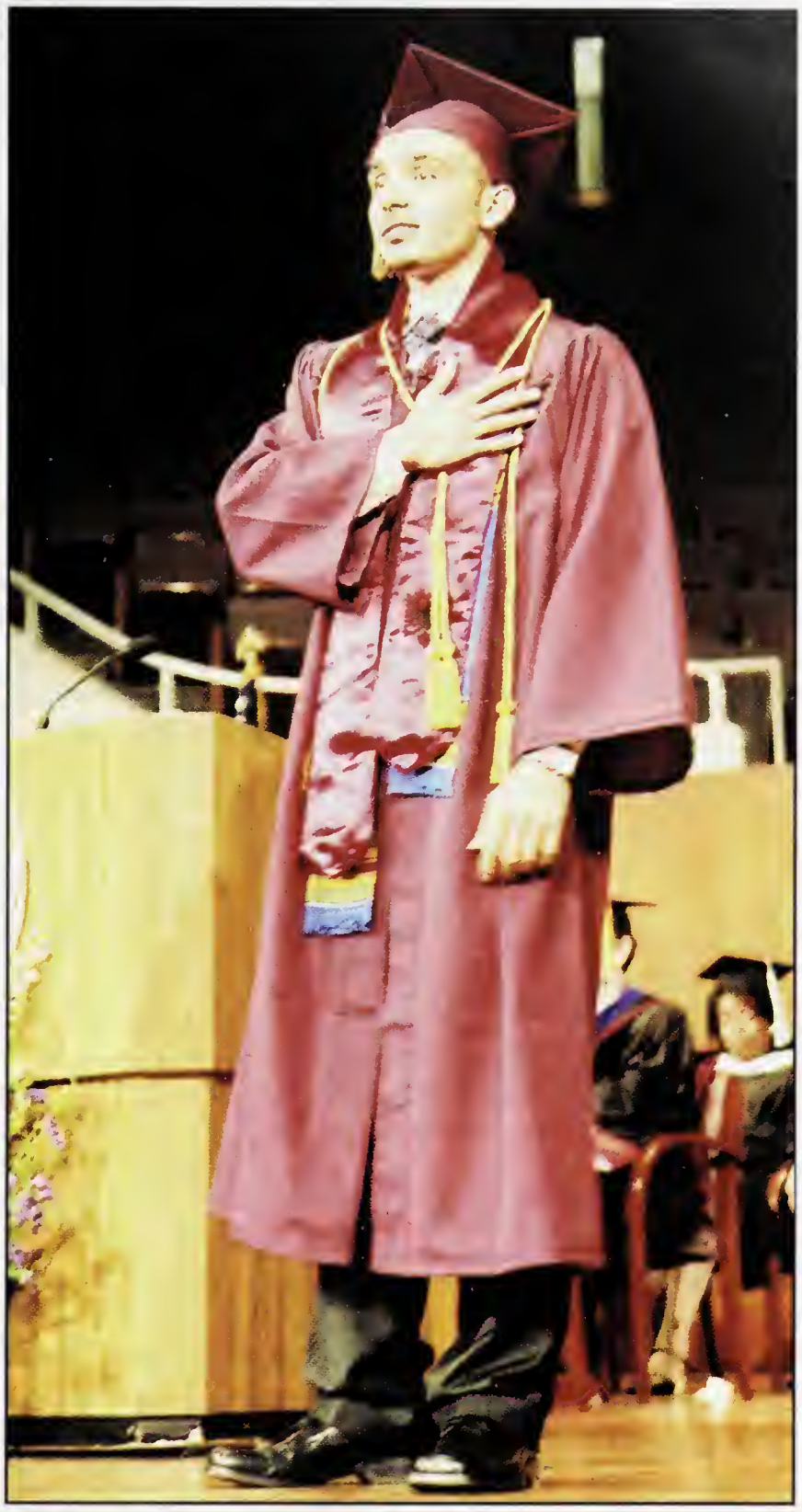
"Well my friends these are all part of our experiences at this University and I am sure that one day we will reminisce back on these times and say, 'Once upon a time...'"

Before the march into the auditorium, other graduates spoke of memories from their education and their future plans.

Walker Swan, a graduate who held almost every leadership role on campus during his tenure, said he will miss the friendships he had at Park, but knows they will continue on after the walk ends.

Chris Peel, a criminal justice graduate, remembers his time as a public safety officer, and all of the fun in the residence halls.

"The people are what kept me at Park," he said. "I have made life-long friends here, and look forward to keeping in touch with them all after graduation. Who knows, I might even pull over some of my classmates someday as a police officer!"



Graduates from Park's master's programs (top left, opposite page) leave the Community of Christ Auditorium after receiving their degrees. President Beverley Byers-Pevitts (center, opposite page) applauded during the commencement exercises in May, 2005. Graduate Walker Swan kissed Dr. Byers-Pevitts on the cheek (bottom opposite page) as he received his diploma. One excited graduate was congratulated by a child (top left) after she received her diplooma. Commencement speaker Ergys Prenika (top right saluted his family in his native language during his commencement address. Assistant professor of communication arts Steven Youngblood awarded Valeriu Mutu (left) with his undergraduate degree. Youngblood's family served as a host family for Mutu during his education at Park.

Narva Photos/ Cherie Journee and Janet Narron

Editors' Notes 2005

My life changed the minute I set foot onto the Parkville campus of Park University. I just didn't know it at the time.

I had changed my major three times in the first year of my collegiate experience, and I came to Park not sure of what I wanted to do, but knowing I couldn't be a waitress my whole life, no matter how good the tips were.

I found my answer the first time I saw my byline printed in the Park *Stylus*. At the time, it may have been more my own ego than my sense of journalistic responsibility, but I was hooked. Almost three years have passed since that first issue, and I have no idea where I would be now if it weren't for that day.

The *Narva* is a publication about the history of Park. The changes it endures, the different people it sees each semester, the goodbyes it says every year. The triumphs and tragedies it inevitably experiences.

It may have taken some pushing and prodding at the hands of John Lofflin, my advisor, to get this *Narva* done. But I finally understand what he meant when he said I should feel lucky, proud, and excited to publish an entire magazine. Holding this publication in your hands, I hope you understand not only the sacrifices that had to be made in order to fill its pages, but I hope you get a sense of your place in the history of Park. I know I do.

To the students, faculty and staff of Park, both past, present and future, this is my gift to you.

-Kelli Bamforth

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The *Narva* has been quite an experience. I've enjoyed getting to know fellow classmates, Park's campus, and its numerous activities and participants on a more intimate level through working with the *Narva* and the *Stylus*. Both publications have taught me so much about journalism, photography, and getting involved with my school. I really believe that working on this staff has made me a better, more knowledgeable student, and I encourage everyone to try out an activity or group offered by Park. Having said that, the *Narva* staff has worked very hard to bring you this publication, and I hope you enjoy it!

-Kelley Walker Chance

Special Thanks...

To Elizabeth Weese, John Lofflin, Laure Christensen, Ann Schultis, Steven Youngblood, Kelly Korb and O'Dell Publishing, Photographx, the entire staff of the Park *Stylus*, everyone who's ever been yelled at or thrown out of the *Stylus* office, the students enrolled in the spring 2005 Feature Writing and Photography II classes, and last, but definitely not least, every person on the Park campus, for allowing us to take their picture and invade their space. Thank you for sharing your lives with us.